

John Deere Shareholder Meeting
Stockholder Proposal # 3
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The National Center for Public Policy Research
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I'm Justin Danhof of the National Center for Public Policy Research, and I rise to move stockholder proposal #3.

For too long now, much of corporate America has bent to the will of the political left without pushback. Consider our proposal today to be that pushback.

Our proposal is very simple. It asks the company to explain its support for individuals and organizations that fight for policies that ultimately would tax and regulate John Deere out of existence. If and when Deere joins anti-free enterprise causes in the future, our proposal merely asks the company to tell us shareholders why.

For example, when left-wing politicians sought to impose draconian anti-global warming regulations that would have crippled this company in the long-term, John Deere actually helped bankroll the effort. Thankfully, the scheme stalled in Congress, but why did this company spend money to hurt ourselves?

Likewise, when radical liberal activists spread lies about the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a well-regarded 40-year-old organization that John Deere joined because it works to reduce our taxes and to ease the regulatory burden upon our operations, John Deere was one of the first organizations in the country to cave in and withdraw its membership. Apparently, the motive was just to make groups such as Color of Change, NorthStar Asset Management and the Democracy Alliance happy. When I asked Mr. Allen if Deere would consider rejoining ALEC, because lower taxes and regulations are good for John Deere, he attacked my organization and labeled us as "extremists."*

Are there any shareholders here – please, if there are, stand up and be counted – who think John Deere is better off if corporate taxes are higher and government places more and more regulations upon what we are allowed sell and how we can manufacture?

As you consider your vote on our proposal, please note that our company's management petitioned the Securities and Exchange Commission to remove our proposal from its proxy. Using some of the most dishonest arguments our organization has ever seen, the company tried to prohibit you shareholders from even seeing our proposal.

Deere's management has given clout to left-wing groups that want to tear down the free enterprise system that has allowed the company to thrive and grow through generations. If Deere wants to continue down this path, a path that ultimately could kill this company, it should at least tell us shareholders why.

**http://www.nationalcenter.org/PR-JohnDeere_Results_022713.html*

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