

**Pfizer Shareholder Meeting
Opposition Statement to Item 4
Amy Ridenour, Chairman
The National Center for Public Policy Research
April 23, 2015**

The proposal submitted by the Christopher Reynolds Foundation is an attempt to force the company to stop working with a 40-year-old association of conservative and free-market state legislators.

I urge shareholders to vote against this proposal.

It is clearly not in the interest of this company to refuse to work with any group of state legislators.

The Christopher Reynolds Foundation makes no argument that it would be good for Pfizer to stop working with this group, but attacks work the American Legislative Exchange Council did years ago on renewable energy standards and voter ID, claiming such initiatives are “controversial.”

That’s actually funny, because the purpose of the Christopher Reynolds Foundation is to normalize relations between the U.S. and Cuba. Since when does a group that wants to normalize relations with a brutal dictatorship worry about controversy?

But let’s address the charge directly.

ALEC does not support MANDATED renewable energy standards, but it does support renewable energy. Renewable energy mandates hurt low-income people, who disproportionately are minorities. So the Christopher Reynolds Foundation wants us to oppose a group that opposes hurting low-income people and minorities? I suggest we say “no” to this.

The Christopher Reynolds Foundation is also upset that the group in question worked on voter ID three or more years ago.

I suspect the Christopher Reynolds Foundation has been spending so much of its time helping the Castro brothers it has gotten out of touch with Americans, who support voter ID by 70-27%. I can well believe Fidel Castro disapproves of voter ID – he doesn’t even approve of voting – but the American people overwhelmingly do.

A corporation that yields to activist demands that it stop funding or working with any group -- whether on the right or the left -- makes its a target of future campaigns, potentially damaging its brand as well as its ability to advance public policies that advance its interest, because it has shown it is vulnerable to such campaigns. Pfizer’s association with Center for American Progress, for example, could be subject to such a campaign.

Contact:

David Almasi at (202) 543-4110 x11 or (703) 568-4727 (text-enabled) or dalmasi@nationalcenter.org

Judy Kent at (703) 759-7476 or jkent@nationalcenter.org

The National Center for Public Policy Research
501 Capitol Court NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-4110
www.nationalcenter.org • www.conservativeblog.org • [@NationalCenter](https://twitter.com/NationalCenter)