

ALEC

Annual Report 2025



About ALEC

The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing and promoting principles of limited government, free markets and federalism at the state level. ALEC educates elected officials on making sound policy and provides them with a platform for collaboration with other elected officials and business leaders. This dynamic forum for the free exchange of ideas—along with education for elected officials—has made ALEC one of the most powerful forces in the resurgence of free-market reform at the state level.

Mission

The ALEC mission is to increase individual liberty, prosperity and the well-being of all Americans by advancing and promoting the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. ALEC accomplishes its mission by providing both an educational platform for elected officials and an open forum for the free exchange of ideas between policymakers, business leaders and individual citizens—one that produces real public policy solutions, clearly understood, that can be implemented at the state level. Simply put: ALEC makes principled public policy practical.

Vision

The vision of ALEC is for a better America that provides the greatest opportunity possible for its citizens to flourish and for communities to succeed, as well as more sovereignty and freedom at the state and local level. ALEC executes its mission to fulfill this larger vision through an array of core programs and projects focused on training and equipping legislators, which include multiple policy centers, task forces, academies, publications, as well as the American City County Exchange (ACCE) and major events and meetings. By supporting legislators and partners and effectively communicating the powerful ideas of limited government, free markets and federalism, ALEC reaches, informs and influences increasing numbers of people.





Letter from the Chief Executive Officer

As we close 2025, we highlight a year defined by momentum, discipline, and principled leadership. The work accomplished across the states in 2025 reaffirmed what has guided this organization for more than five decades: when policymakers are equipped with proven, freedom-forward solutions, states lead the way in securing America's future.

The past year delivered incredible wins. States advanced policies that strengthened education freedom, restored balance in regulatory authority, protected taxpayers, and expanded economic opportunity. States continued to demonstrate that limited government and free markets are not abstract ideals; they are the foundation for prosperity. From major reforms in regulatory oversight to the continued expansion of universal education choice, 2025 showed what is possible when leaders stay focused on results.

Our meetings brought together thousands of state legislators, policy experts, and partners committed to advancing these principles. The States and Nation Policy Summit and the Annual Meeting served as powerful reminders that the states remain the laboratories of democracy. The energy, collaboration, and innovation on display at these gatherings reflect the strength of the ALEC network and the dedication of those who serve their communities with integrity and purpose.

This year also marked important progress in equipping lawmakers with the tools they need to navigate an increasingly complex policy landscape. ALEC publications, such as Essential Policy Solutions for 2026, the Index of State Education Freedom, and our growing library of model policies continue to provide state leaders with actionable, forward-looking guidance. These resources are the product of rigorous work across our task forces and policy centers, and they remain central to our mission.

As we look to 2026, the stakes are high, but the path is clear. States will continue to lead on the issues that matter most: empowering families, strengthening local economies, safeguarding constitutional freedoms, and ensuring government remains accountable to the people it serves. ALEC will be there every step of the way, supporting lawmakers with research, solutions, and a community of peers who share a commitment to principled governance.

LISA B. NELSON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALEC by the Numbers

+1,000

More than 1,000 model policies available in the online library, giving state leaders one of the most extensive collections of state-based policy solutions in the nation.

+150

Over 150 model policy ideas were reviewed in 2025, demonstrating the depth of member-driven policy innovation.

36.2B

Billions of readers, viewers and policy makers engaged with ALEC flagship publications throughout the year.

Key Events in 2025

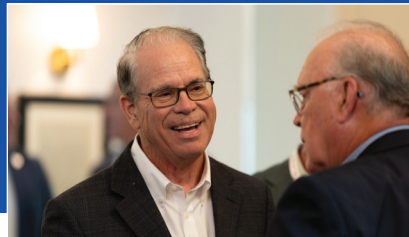
52nd Annual Meeting, Indianapolis IN

The 52nd Annual Meeting in Indianapolis brought together more than 1,600 attendees for one of the most energetic and impactful gatherings in ALEC history. Keynote remarks from leaders such as US Secretary of Education Linda McMahon, Vivek Ramaswamy, Dr. Arthur B. Laffer, Stephen Moore and Indiana Governor Mike Braun highlighted issues from ESG lawfare and government spending to drug pricing, education freedom, energy production, and tech policy.

The meeting's energy was matched by its productivity resulting in the approval of 44 model policies expanding the ALEC library of trusted solutions. The collaboration, expertise, and commitment on display set a strong trajectory for 2026, ensuring that lawmakers are equipped with the tools and ideas needed to advance solutions in every state.



LINDA MCMAHON
SECRETARY



MIKE BRAUN
GOVERNOR



VIVEK RAMASWAMY
ENTREPRENEUR



States & Nation Policy Summit, Fort Worth TX

The 2025 States and Nation Policy Summit in Fort Worth delivered record-breaking engagement and stood out as one of the most dynamic gatherings in the history of ALEC. Attendees heard from an exceptional lineup of speakers, including US Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, HHS Assistant Secretary for Family Support Alex J. Adams, and Fort Worth Mayor Mattie Parker. The Summit became a showcase of state-level leadership and excellence, bringing together lawmakers and experts from across the political spectrum to review and debate more than 80 draft model policies. It highlighted the strength of nonpartisanship engagement and the shared commitment to advancing principled, result-driven solutions.

This year's Summit also celebrated a milestone moment: 50 years of the Laffer Curve. Dr. Arthur B. Laffer joined ALEC members to reflect on the enduring impact of his groundbreaking economic insight and its role in shaping pro-growth policy across the states. The celebration included a message from US Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent and underscored how foundational ideas—rooted in economic freedom and opportunity—continue to guide and inspire the work of ALEC today.



BROOKE ROLLINS
SECRETARY



ALEX J. ADAMS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY



MATTIE PARKER
MAYOR

ALEC Academy Highlights

ALEC regional policy academies and other educational programs give state leaders concentrated time to focus directly with subject-matter experts and peers on the issues shaping their communities. These engagements reinforce a core reality: meaningful policy innovation continues to happen in the states.

Throughout 2025, ALEC hosted more than 15 state-based events, creating hands-on opportunities for legislators to exchange ideas, participate in in-depth discussion, and access proven policy tools designed to strengthen leadership and advance effective solutions nationwide.

Emerging Technology Academy

Educational Freedom Academy

Energy and Technology Academy

International Freedom Academy

**Legislative and Committee
Staff Academy**

Judiciary Academy

Regulatory Reform Academy

Blue State Academy

State Chair Training

Election Integrity Academy Series

**Tax and Economic Policy Regional
Academy Series**

Health and Human Services Academy

**Reagan Ranch Tax and Economic
Policy Academy**



Year of Growth

The year delivered one of the most consequential periods of growth and leadership in the 52-year history of ALEC. States advanced bold reforms across education, fiscal policy, and government efficiency, supported by a record number of model policies, expanded task forces and unprecedented engagement from lawmakers nationwide.

ALEC Announces Two New Task Forces

The addition of two new task forces marked one of the most energizing developments of the year, expanding capacity to support lawmakers with targeted, high-impact policy solutions.



VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS TASK FORCE

The Veterans and Military Affairs Task Force brought together state leaders committed to improving the lives of servicemembers, veterans and military families. With a mission centered on economic opportunity, community reintegration, and access to critical services, the task force quickly became the hub for innovative, state driven strategies that honor those who have served. Its launch signaled a deepening commitment to ensuring every state has the tools to support its military communities with dignity and purpose.



PROCESS AND PROCEDURES TASK FORCE

The creation of the Process and Procedures Task Force added another powerful dimension to ALEC. Focused on strengthening election integrity as well as the rules, structures, and safeguards that uphold transparent, accountable governance, the task force equips lawmakers to protect the integrity of democratic institutions and reinforce the balance between citizens and their government.

Together, these new task forces infused fresh energy into the ALEC policy portfolio, broadened opportunities for membership engagement, and underscored the organization's role as the nation's premier forum for principled, state-centered innovation.

Policy Solutions in Action

Oklahoma Sets The Standard

In 2025, ALEC members in Oklahoma delivered a series of high-impact policy wins that distinguished the state as a national leader heading into 2026. The Sooner State achieved significant victories following ALEC Essential Policy Solutions on tax reform, hospital price transparency, judicial deference, REINS-style legislation, and tort reform—illustrating a year characterized by both major reforms and intensive oversight of state operations. Collectively, these initiatives positioned Oklahoma as a model for pro-growth, pro-transparency, and pro-accountability governance.

STRENGTHENING OKLAHOMA'S ECONOMIC AND FISCAL LANDSCAPE

Oklahoma's HB 2764. Signed into law in May of 2025, this Act reduces the state's top income tax rate to 4.5% starting in 2026 and allows its trigger to continue the reductions all the way to zero.

NATION-LEADING HEALTH CARE PRICE TRANSPARENCY

Oklahoma Senator Casey Murdock and Representative Mark Lepak were recognized for their leadership in passing SB 889, one of the strongest health care price transparency laws in the country.

SWEEPING TORT REFORM TO STRENGTHEN JUDICIAL FAIRNESS

The state enacted a broad tort reform package that included SB 453 to deter frivolous litigation, promote transparency and strengthen the state's business environment while protecting Oklahoma consumers and families.



ALEC

American
Legislative
Exchange
Council



Economic Competitiveness

MAKING THE 2017 FEDERAL TAX CUTS PERMANENT

“President Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill solidified the largest tax cut for American workers in our nation's history. Thanks to the support of ALEC and more than 600 of your legislative members, we were able to pass this legislation, securing this monumental victory for the American people. ALEC and its members have been essential for making the case for supply-side economics on Capitol Hill and in state legislatures across the country. I'm grateful to ALEC for its decades-long promotion of pro-growth policies.”

SCOTT BESSENT, UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

President Donald Trump's signing of The One Big, Beautiful Bill Act on July 4 offered far more than a great patriotic headline. It provides hardworking American taxpayers with long-term tax relief and provides the American economy an incredible boost through lower tax rates on small businesses.

A core piece of the legislation was the permanent extension of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA)—also known as the Trump tax cuts. In 2025, ALEC underscored TCJA as a foundational driver of America's economic strength emphasizing that the law's reductions in individual income tax rates, near-doubling of the standard deduction, and broader pro-growth reforms had produced substantial benefits for workers, families and small businesses nationwide.

In June 2025, ALEC released a letter signed by **632 state lawmakers from 48 states** emphasizing the TCJA's past impacts, including \$1.5 trillion net tax cut, rising household incomes, and job creation. By equipping state legislators with analysis and comparative data, ALEC aimed to help them better understand the fiscal and economic considerations tied to the sunset of major federal tax provisions.

State Tax Reform

In 2025, ALEC continued its work with lawmakers as numerous states—particularly Utah, Kansas, Ohio, and Mississippi—continued to advance tax relief, which will improve their rankings in *Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index*. ALEC continues to be a leading voice in showing how Americans vote with their feet based on policies that bring more economic opportunity. **Low tax states such as Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, and Tennessee** experienced the strongest net migration, gaining nearly 350,000 new residents in a single year—an outcome attributed to pro-growth tax climates and economic competitiveness.

ALEC honored **Ohio Senator Jerry Cirino** in its 2025 “Legislators of the Year” recognition for his *instrumental role in advancing Ohio’s transformational flat tax reform* and strengthening the state’s higher education system.

“Years ago, we had seven income tax brackets—the highest was 7.5%. Now, we’re down to a 2.75% flat tax in the state of Ohio. That doesn’t happen without the research of ALEC.”

ROB MCCOLLEY, SENATE PRESIDENT AND ALEC BOARD MEMBER, OHIO





Strengthening Regulatory Oversight

In 2025, state leaders across the country advanced significant ALEC regulatory reforms, supporting efforts to strengthen legislative oversight and ensure greater transparency and accountability in rulemaking.

Oklahoma Senator and former CIED **Task Force Chair Micheal Bergstrom** played a key role in efforts to limit judicial deference to administrative agencies, helping reinforce clearer boundaries between agency authority and elected lawmakers. In **North Carolina, Representative Allen Chesser, Senator Steve Jarvis, Senator Tim Moffitt, and Senator Benton Sawrey** led the passage of REINS-style legislation requiring major regulatory actions with substantial economic impact to receive approval from the General Assembly, enhancing accountability in the state's rule approval process.

Additionally, **Alaska Governor and ALEC alumnus Mike Dunleavy** issued executive orders aimed at reducing regulatory burdens, improving administrative transparency and modernizing state regulatory processes. Together, these leaders demonstrated a strong commitment to strengthening regulatory systems through state driven reforms that promote clarity, efficiency and responsible governance.

The initiatives led by Oklahoma, North Carolina and Alaska align closely with long-standing ALEC policies focused on regulatory oversight, limiting agency overreach, reinforcing separation of powers and enhancing transparency rulemaking.

Education Freedom

Education freedom emerged as a defining theme of the year, and with President Trump's executive order to close the US Department of Education, ALEC was uniquely prepared. The *ALEC Resolution Supporting the Devolution of Power from the US Department of Education to the States* provided state leaders with a ready blueprint, and states like Michigan moved quickly to adopt it. Momentum continued to build as the 2025 ALEC Index of State Education Freedom highlighted the states where families have the greatest freedom in choosing learning options tailored to the needs of their children.

These rankings became a topic of discussion with President Trump when ALEC joined governors from across the country for the White House's National School Choice Week Roundtable.

Education Freedom Programs give families access to flexible Education Savings Accounts (ESAs), or tax-credit scholarships that can be used for private school tuition, homeschooling, tutoring, online courses, special needs services, and a range of customized learning options. By early 2025, **twelve states had adopted universal school choice programs**, and a total of **nineteen states had implemented universal or near universal ESA programs**—a dramatic expansion from just a few years ago.

According to EdChoice, as a result of these reforms, more than twenty-seven million children (or roughly 40% of all K–12 students nationwide) now live in states where educational freedom programs are available, empowering families with unprecedented choice in how their children learn.

ALEC continues to make a significant contribution to this educational freedom movement that is sweeping the nation. Our Education Freedom Alliance believes public education dollars can and should follow the student, not the system. America's current “one-size-fits-all” system of public education simply does not work for every student or every family. While there are plenty of students who do perform at their highest level in their local public school, every child is unique, and states should provide parents with options for their children to thrive through policies promoting education freedom.



HEALTHCARE

Empowering patients with clear, upfront information remains essential to restoring patients with control over their healthcare decisions and driving down costs. Healthcare remains one of the few industries in which consumers are routinely expected to purchase services without knowing the price beforehand, an unsustainable model that burdens families and undermines trust.

This year, leaders across the states continued advancing reforms that strengthen accountability in healthcare. In **Oklahoma, Senator Casey Murdock and Representative Mark Lepak** championed one of the strongest healthcare price transparency laws in the nation, ensuring that families are no longer left in the dark about the cost of care. In **Ohio, Representatives Tim Barhorst and Ron Ferguson** led with equal determination, championing efforts to ensure healthcare markets work for the people they serve.

These efforts reflect the principles embedded in the ALEC **healthcare price-transparency model policies**, which promote upfront cost disclosures, patient access to clear information, and market-driven accountability.

BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

The subject of children's online safety remains a critical priority for parents, educators, and government officials nationwide.

As the internet and emerging technologies become more widespread at an increasingly young ages, there is a risk that America's kids and teens may willfully or unintentionally consume inappropriate or harmful content online; fall victim to cyberbullying, online scams, or even human trafficking; and/or develop unhealthy behaviors online.

This year ALEC recognized **Tennessee Representative Aron Maberry and Senator Bill Powers** for their leadership in passing the Teen Social Media and Internet Safety Act. The bill received bipartisan support in both legislative chambers and was promptly signed into law by Governor Bill Lee. Students will learn about the benefits of healthy social media use for academic, employment, and career-building purposes, and how to safely connect with friends, family, and others. Tennessee's new law builds on the key elements of ALEC model policy that has already been successfully implemented in states such as Florida and Virginia.

ALEC INFLUENCE EXTENDS BEYOND DOMESTIC POLICY

Last year, ALEC launched the Center for International Freedom to support emerging democracies and advance global liberty. It equips policymakers around the globe with resources that champion constitutional governance and federalism equipping them to resist authoritarian influence. Its creation marks a major expansion of the ALEC mission, extending its work from America's statehouses to nations striving to secure the same economic and political freedoms for their own people.

STANDING AGAINST ANTISEMITISM AND SUPPORTING ISRAEL

ALEC confronted the rise of anti-Israel activism by equipping state leaders with clear, principled guidance rooted in constitutional education and civic understanding. More than 200 elected officials from 42 states joined the ALEC effort to affirm support for Israel, in the wake of Hamas' barbaric attack on Israel and ALEC members participated in a trip to Israel in 2025 to gain a boots on the ground perspective on the situation there. ALEC educational programming, including 2025 International Freedom Academy, was developed to help states protect their students by rejecting campus environments where intimidation and antisemitic rhetoric undermine open discourse.



Publications

ALEC produced and launched numerous influential policy publications in 2025, including the 18th edition *Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index*; 2026 Essential Policy Solutions; 3rd edition of *States that Work: A Labor Policy Roadmap Across America*; *Addressing Violent Crime: A Guide to Advancing Community Safety*; 4th edition *Energy Affordability Report*; 2nd edition *Index of State Education Freedom*. These educational resources, built upon the ALEC nonpartisan research and analysis, are widely read by policymakers across America and offer valuable insights into the factors that enable states to thrive.



RICH STATES, POOR STATES LAUNCH IN UTAH

On Tax Day 2025, the ALEC team traveled to Utah to celebrate the release of the 18th edition *Rich States, Poor States*. For the 18th consecutive year, Utah has been ranked #1 in the nation for economic outlook in our annual rankings. Governor Spencer Cox, House Speaker Mike Schultz and Senate President Stuart Adams noted that this recognition reflected decades of thoughtful policy, long-term vision, and a commitment to building a better future for the next generation.

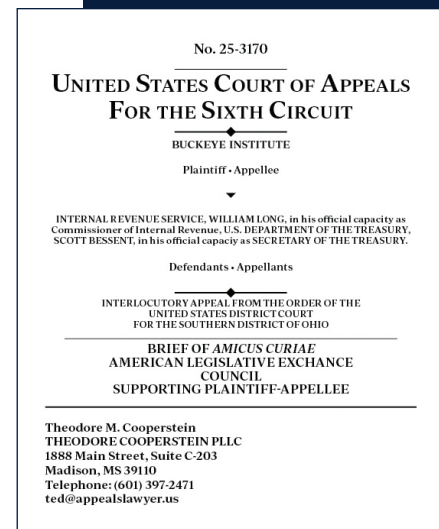
State leaders and legislators have a strong record of implementing pro-taxpayer reforms in recent years, including the adoption of a flat personal income tax rate, pension reform for its previously endangered system, and an innovative approach to property tax reform. We were grateful to our friend and ALEC Board Member Senate President Stuart Adams for hosting such a great event.



AMICUS BRIEF: THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE V. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

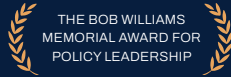
ALEC filed an amicus brief in *The Buckeye Institute v. Internal Revenue Service*, a Sixth Circuit case challenging the IRS's attempt to compel nonprofits to disclose sensitive donor information.

Drawing on relevant experience, the ALEC brief underscored the real reporting requirements that had already chilled support for our organization, as some contributors reduced or ceased giving out of fear of retaliation or unwanted exposure following a politically motivated audit. The brief emphasized the real world risks posed by centralized federal databases of donor identities and emphasized that broad, indiscriminate collection of contributor information cannot withstand the exacting constitutional scrutiny required to protect Americans' freedom of association.



Influential Leaders

Each year ALEC recognizes leaders for their outstanding achievements and commitment to limited government, free-markets and federalism. This year ALEC honored individuals at every level of government who have displayed excellence in leadership and outstanding service to their states.



ANN BOLLIN
REPRESENTATIVE
MICHIGAN



DAN HAWKINS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
KANSAS



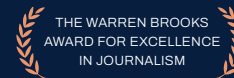
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LIZ TRUSS
UNITED KINGDOM



JAMES RUCKER
WEST VIRGINIA



MICHEAL BERGSTROM
SENATOR
OKLAHOMA



HUGH HEWITT
SALEM MEDIA GROUP



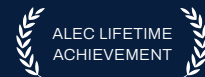
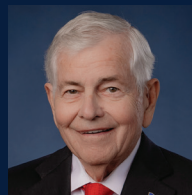
DUSTIN BURROWS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
TEXAS



ALEX MEYER
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS



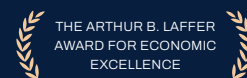
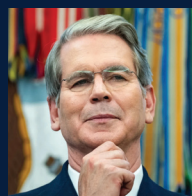
JERRY C. CIRINO
SENATOR
OHIO



TOM CRADDICK
REPRESENTATIVE
TEXAS



BRANDON CREIGHTON
FORMER PRESIDENT
PRO TEMPORE
TEXAS



SCOTT BESSENT
US SECRETARY OF
THE TREASURY



JOE ARITE
GUARANTEE TRUST LIFE



ERIKA DONALDS
AMERICA FIRST
POLICY INSTITUTE



State Legislator of the Month

In 2025, the ALEC State Legislator of the Month program continued to honor state lawmakers who exemplify a strong commitment to the ALEC core values. These legislators are selected for their dedication to innovative policy solutions and their ability to implement impactful strategies at both the state and national levels. Their work is highlighted by ALEC, celebrating their contributions to advancing limited government, free markets and federalism, while inspiring others in the legislative community.



KERRI SEEKINS-CROWE
REPRESENTATIVE
MONTANA



KEN BOGNER
SENATE PRESIDENT PRO-TEM
MONTANA



BETHANY BALLARD
REPRESENTATIVE
GEORGIA



MATT HALL
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
MICHIGAN



ROSE PUGLIESE
HOUSE MINORITY LEADER
COLORADO

POLICY CHAMPIONS

Launched in 2024, the ALEC Policy Champions program continued to grow in 2025. Award winners are elected leaders—mostly state legislators—who have sponsored successful legislation consistent with models featured in the ALEC Essential Policy Solutions publication.



What They Are Saying About ALEC

“The organization has shaped state laws for 50 years. It may be at the height of its influence.”

G | *Governing Magazine, 7/17/25*

“...the American Legislative Exchange Council, an influential conservative policy group.”

T | *The New York Times, 12/1/25*

“The American Legislative Exchange Council, the largest voluntary coalition of state lawmakers...”

D | *The Daily Signal, 5/21/25*

“Each year, ALEC scrutinizes states based on the same 15 metrics focused on tax rates, debt service, size of public workforce and right-to-work status.”

D | *Deseret News, 4/15/25*

“The American Legislative Exchange Council, a conservative group that drafts model legislation, created a government efficiency coalition after its December national meeting.”

C | *CNN, 2/16/25*

“...the American Legislative Exchange Council, which advises legislators on laws to limit government and promote education freedom.”

N | *NPR, 2/25/25*

“ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson: The longtime conservative operative leads the 52-year-old think tank of state legislators with an eye toward limited government that mirrors the priorities of today’s White House on everything from deregulation to energy policy.”

W | *Washingtonian, 9/30/25*

“ALEC is a free-enterprise organization whose advisory council is made up of executives of some of America’s most powerful business interests...”

P | *The Plain Dealer, 1/20/25*



BY THE NUMBERS

32.9 Billion

Readers, Listeners, and Viewers

90+

National Interviews

37k

Daily Video Plays

1.2M

Video Plays

7.3k

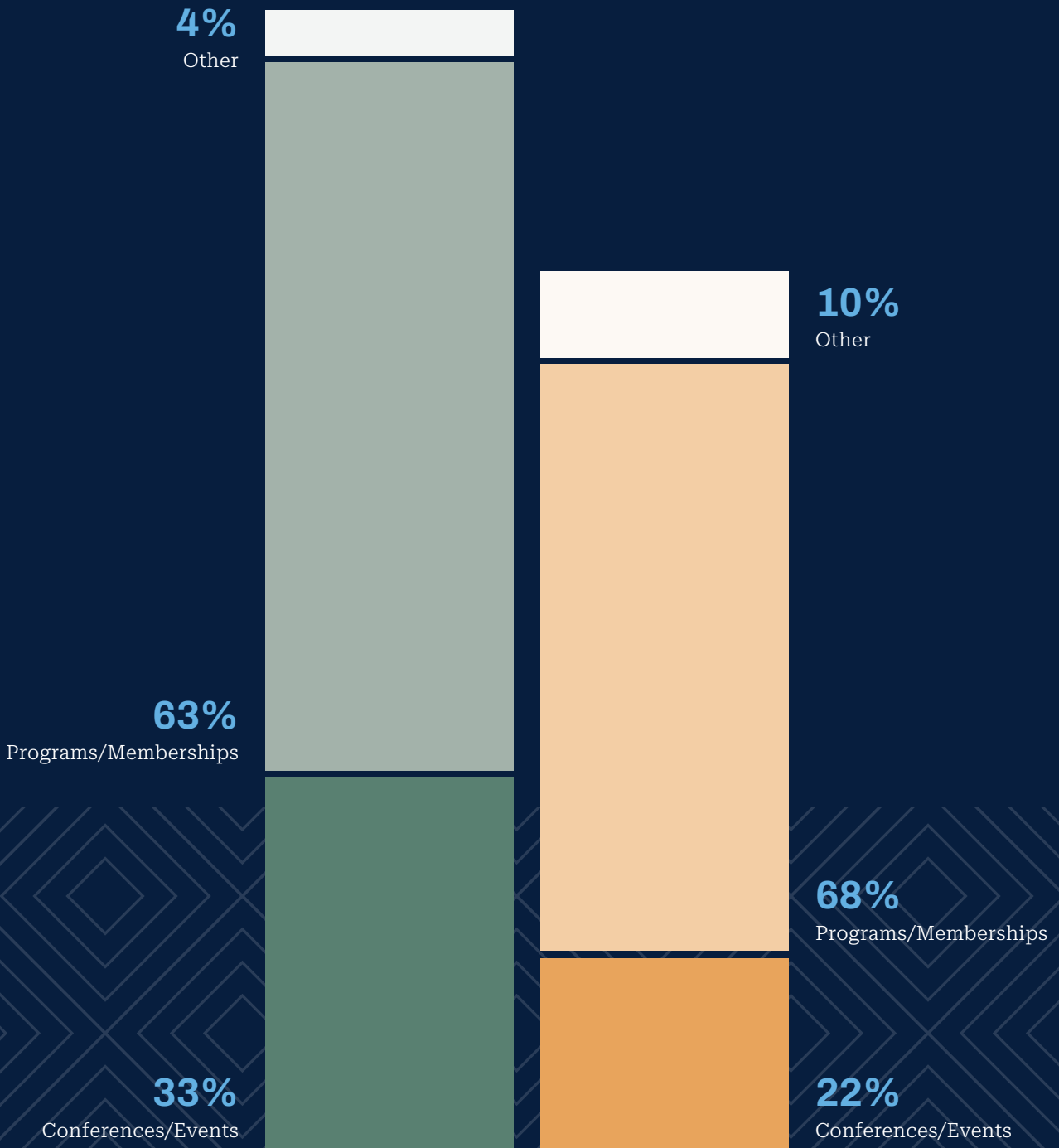
Daily Social Media Impressions

\$32.5M

Worth of Coverage



Financial Highlights



\$14.5M
Total Income

\$11.5M
Total Expenses

ALEC Internship: Emerging Leaders

At ALEC, we are dedicated to expanding our reach and advancing our mission through initiatives that extend beyond the organization itself. With the support of the ALEC team, our internship program plays a crucial role in amplifying our impact. These passionate individuals actively engage in identifying solutions, sharing ideas, and collaborating on public policy initiatives across states, while also taking on new leadership roles to educate others about the success of these efforts.

The ALEC internship program provides a unique platform to work alongside state legislators from diverse political backgrounds. In 2025, ALEC welcomed 30 interns, representing a wide range of academic backgrounds from prestigious institutions, such as Johns Hopkins University, Hillsdale College and the University of Notre Dame.





Join Us in Building a Better Future Through a Legacy or Outright Gift

Planned gifts and other donations received in the future are vital to the long-term growth of ALEC. They help ensure our ability to advance policy solutions that will strengthen America for generations to come. Whether through an immediate gift or a future commitment, your support will help make certain that the work of ALEC is carried on.

The *Robert M. Weekley Legacy Society* honors the generosity of the late Robert M. Weekley of Texas, whose transformative gift has already played a meaningful role in the future of ALEC. The Society recognizes individuals who choose to include ALEC in their long-range philanthropic plans and would like to be recognized in this way.

ALEC welcomes and depends on support through a range of giving options, including:

- Bequests
- Estate and trust designations
- Gifts of retirement assets
- Stock and securities
- Gifts of tangible assets

Each of these gifts—made today or planned for the future—plays a critical role in advancing our mission and preserving the principles that will shape our nation for years to come.

To learn more about giving options at ALEC, including gifts that qualify for membership in the *Robert M. Weekley Legacy Society*, please contact: development@alec.org.



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Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Frederick and Audrey Kapetansky: A Bequest to ALEC

In 2025, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) was deeply honored to receive a generous bequest from the estate of Dr. Frederick Kapetansky and his wife, Audrey, of Columbus, Ohio, who have become members of the Robert M. Weekley Legacy Society.

Dr. and Mrs. Kapetansky were steadfast supporters of ALEC during their lifetimes, sharing a profound belief in the mission of ALEC to advance limited government, free markets and federalism. Guided by their Judeo-Christian values and a deep respect for America's founding principles, they supported causes that protect individual liberty, strengthen families, and nurture moral leadership. Their legacy gift to ALEC will have an impact that will be felt for generations to come.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, during World War II, both were imbued early on with a sense of patriotism and service. They graduated from the University of Michigan—Audrey with a B.A. in Physical Anthropology and Frederick with a Medical Degree. For the next 62 years, Dr. Kapetansky practiced as a glaucoma specialist, pioneering new therapies and teaching residents. He and Audrey, married for 67 years, settled in Columbus, Ohio, where they raised five children. Audrey's keen understanding of complex issues gave her the ability to recognize the profound impact that ALEC has in safeguarding constitutional principles and promoting principled governance.

Steven Kapetansky, trustee of the Kapetansky Family Trust and a Hillsdale College alumnus (mathematics major), helped to fulfill his parents' wishes. He shared: *“It has been my pleasure to work with you all on realizing this gift to ALEC. Knowing that people like you are carrying the torch brings real comfort and hope. Your work honors the values my parents cherished, and I am truly grateful that their legacy at ALEC will continue to touch lives now and in the future.”*

In collaboration with Steven, ALEC is designating these funds to support the upcoming Summer Internship Program at ALEC, which is being named the Kapetansky Family Internship Program 2026 in their honor. This program offers college students and recent graduates hands-on experience in policy research, model legislation development, legislative outreach and state-level advocacy. Interns collaborate closely with ALEC expert staff and engage directly with lawmakers, building practical skills to become future leaders. Notably, the program regularly recruits students from Hillsdale College—Steven's alma mater—increasing the cycle of connection.



The Van Rensselaer Family— A History of Support with Real Impact at ALEC

For more than a decade, Alex and Sallie Van Rensselaer have been friends and supporters of ALEC. Through this engagement, together with their philanthropic network, the Van Rensselaers have championed individual liberty, fiscal responsibility, and transformative educational reform—including school choice, efficiency, accountability, and transparency in education for all Americans.

Their principled philanthropic involvement stems from a deeply held conviction that evidence-based policy discussions and high-quality education can strengthen communities. The Van Rensselaers' steadfast support reflects the reputation ALEC has built as an organization of impact. Engaged donors such as the Van Rensselaers understand how ALEC is able to inform state legislators with model policies and practical tools that empower them to advance limited government, free markets, and innovative solutions at the state level. This drives real-world changes in education and other policy areas as well.

“It has been a top priority for our family to help rebuild education in America, returning to our young citizens from all walks of life, a chance to flourish in an environment with academic rigor, a classic curriculum and a true understanding of liberty,” says Alex. *“ALEC is forging relationships and creating spaces where policymakers and citizens can learn together. This is something we are proud to support—especially given the measurable influence ALEC has had on advancing school choice and better outcomes for students nationwide.”*

Despite busy schedules, Alex and Sallie find time to engage with ALEC members and experts, asking thoughtful questions that reflect genuine curiosity about policy implications, as opposed to entrenched views. *“We appreciate how ALEC brings together real change state-by-state,”* Sallie reflected. *“They have momentum in helping state legislatures understand the importance of education savings accounts and school choice, particularly for less fortunate families.”*

A FAMILY LEGACY

Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, a business leader and philanthropist in his own right, brings fresh perspectives to the family's longstanding commitment to education and civic engagement. His experience in media and technology has provided innovative ideas for community and policy engagement. *“Being part of the incredible work at ALEC has given me even deeper appreciation for how thoughtful policy discussion can shape communities—and deliver lasting impact,”* Kiliaen remarked. *“It is our hope that ALEC can help improve education in America to nurture generations of free-thinking rugged individuals who will go on to accomplish extraordinary things for our country.”*



EDUCATION AT THE HEART OF THEIR GIVING

The Van Rensselaers support a wide range of education initiatives, including school choice, transparency, and adaptability from K-12 to higher education. They are unique among donors in holistically supporting direct services, advocacy, and policy work.

Sallie added, “We want to be part of building solutions that make a difference for generations to come. The staff at ALEC, led by CEO Lisa Nelson, have a track record of turning ideas into state-level action. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with the entire ALEC team.”

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ADVANCING REAL SOLUTIONS

ALEC *Action* is the advocacy partner of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), America's premier nonpartisan, voluntary membership organization of state policymakers. We help lawmakers with their policy priorities by connecting people and ideas for a real plan of action that fosters efficient, effective and accountable government.

Through state capitol issue briefings, advocacy alerts, public outreach, coalition development and legislative tracking, ALEC *Action* is one of the most effective state-based advocacy organizations in America that advances real solutions to challenges facing families, businesses and state governments.

In 2025, we weighed in on major debates across the country with great success.

Reforms supported included:

- Hospital Price Transparency
- Tax Reform
- Education Freedom



EMPOWERING, RECRUITING, & MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATIVE LEADERS

ALEC *Action* partners with Run Gen Z to recruit and find leaders ready to run for state and local office. Run Gen Z mobilizes thousands of free-thinking young people to run for office, win and make substantial changes to our country.

In the most recent election cycle, Run Gen Z recruits achieved a 79% success rate in the races supported.

In 2025, Run Gen Z traveled the country identifying future candidates, supporting young elected leaders and training those stepping up to run to ensure the next generation is ready to lead. We proudly welcomed over 110 young elected officials and aspiring candidates to celebrate victories, network with fellow candidates and toast to the future.

"Run Gen Z finds young leaders, ensures they are committed conservatives and gives them the training to get into office."

— Caroline Harris Davila (TX), State Representative



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