

■ ALEC SCORECARD

ALEC Model Bills Set the Terms of Debate in 1995 Sessions

Record Number of Bills Introduced and Passed Across the Country

By Kerry Jackson, Editor

The legislative sessions of 1995 were by far the most successful in ALEC's history. In fact, if measured as if a financial investment, the success rate was extraordinary.

The number of ALEC bills introduced jumped from 693 in 1993 — the year with the latest available figures — to 978 this year; the number of ALEC bills enacted increased from 99 to 231 during the same two-year period, a success rate of about 23 percent.

"This was a landmark legislative year in ALEC's history," said ALEC Executive Director Samuel A. Brunelli. "With our success rate at more than 20 percent, I would say that ALEC is a good investment. Nowhere else can you get a return that high."

At least one piece of model legislation was introduced in every state. Eight states introduced more than 30, and Illinois led the way with 52 introductions. At least one bill passed in every state except Rhode Island, and Kentucky, which introduced only one bill. No other state introduced less than five bills.

"We believe that now, more than ever, the principles that drive

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Samuel A. Brunelli
ALEC Executive Director

| Top Eight States By Enactments | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Virginia | 21 |
| Arkansas | 12 |
| Indiana | 11 |
| Illinois | 11 |
| Montana | 10 |
| Georgia | 9 |
| South Carolina | 8 |
| Utah | 8 |

ALEC are the principles of the future of our country," said ALEC National Chairman Senator Ray Powers of Colorado. "After so many years of expansive government, we are seeing a reversal. ALEC has always been at the forefront of limited government and it's gratifying to watch as a new attitude toward public policy sweeps the country."

The busiest Task Force was Criminal Justice, which had 199 bills introduced. The second busiest was Health Care, with 165 introductions; Empowerment was next with 156 introductions.

Within the Criminal Justice Task Force, the legislation that had the most enactments was the *Truth in Sentencing Act*, which became law in 25 states. It was introduced 34 times; no other ALEC bill recorded nearly as many enactments.

Other ALEC bills that were enacted in double figures include: the *Habitual Offender/Three Strikes Act* (11 enactments), *Private Property Protection Act* (10) and the *Nation-*

| Top Eight States By Introductions | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Illinois | 52 |
| California | 41 |
| Hawaii | 38 |
| New York | 37 |
| Louisiana | 33 |
| Massachusetts | 30 |
| New Jersey | 30 |
| Texas | 30 |

wide Interstate Banking Act (10). Two bills — the *DNA Profiling Act* and the *Minors on Welfare Residency Act* — were enacted in nine states. The *Medical Savings Account Act* was enacted in eight states.

The most active state was Illinois, where 52 ALEC bills were introduced and 11 passed. Though California was the next busiest state with 41 introductions, only one of those bills has been enacted so far, but the California General Assembly is in session all year and members expect more ALEC bills to become law before the year is over.

Hawaii was busy also, with 38 introductions and three enactments.

The success rate was remarkably high in Indiana, where 11 of 23 ALEC bills introduced were enacted, and in Montana, where 10 of the 14 bills introduced were made law.

Virginia also recorded a high rate of success — 29 introduced, 21 enacted — as did Arkansas — 20 introduced, 12 enacted.

Idaho was the only state batting 1.000. It enacted all five ALEC bills introduced there. But North



Virginia led all states in enactments

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