

KBOO Spring Membership Drive Special Report on American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) influence in Oregon

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(Portland, Oregon) May 5, 2014 - KBOO community radio station provides music, news and public affairs 24 hours/day, 365 days/year to Portland, Corvallis, Vancouver, Salem, Mount Hood and the surrounding areas as well as streaming on-line world wide. All programming is produced by volunteers with the assistance of paid staff. The weekly cumulative audience is about 60,000 people.

KBOO is currently in one of its three time yearly membership drives May 1 through 17th. This is how the station raises the vast majority of its funding. Call KBOO today to help this essential community resource raise its \$100,000 spring drive goal. KBOO provides a megaphone on the airwaves for the causes that people care about, shares information that other media outlets hide, and gives a voice to the voiceless in Portland and around the world.

An essential part of the Spring Drive is the special programming created to engage audiences at an even deeper level. Special programming this drive includes; A Way Forward for Israel/Palestine featuring Max Blumenthal on May 7th; Dismantling the Prison-Industrial Complex on May 13th; Bounce, Skate Roll - live broadcast from Oaks Park Roller Rink on May 13th and more.

An all-day special program on KBOO titled **Fighting the Neoliberal Agenda** will take place this Friday, May 9th. KBOO's volunteer news and talk producers have put together an amazing lineup for the semi-annual News and Public Affairs Day special for Friday from 7 am to 8 pm. The day will include a talk by Seattle's socialist city council member Kshama

Sawant, recorded in Portland on April 24th. It will also include the first report-back from KBOO's investigative reporting team on the impact of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) on legislation and legislators in the state of Oregon. Two of these reporters were asked to leave a conference hosted by ALEC at the Kansas City, Missouri Marriott hotel last week. The reporters, Mike Klepfer and Yana Maximova, traveled to Kansas City to shadow Oregon legislators with ties to ALEC and to try to identify those business interests that interact with legislators in an effort to update existing lists of businesses affiliated with ALEC. KBOO received a grant from the Fund for Investigative Journalism to do the reports on ALEC influence in Oregon.

The American Legislative Exchange Council is a tax-exempt, 501(c)3 charitable organization that has existed since the 1960s. In recent years, it has become infamous in its efforts to influence members of state legislatures throughout the country to adopt model legislation ALEC creates through various industry "task forces" that focus on corporate interests. Although the most famous of these, the so called "Stand Your Ground" law, received much attention in the wake of the Trayvon Martin shooting, many others quietly become law. Examples range from legislation that prevents farmers from protesting the nearby plantings of genetically modified seeds to requiring users of solar panels to pay a subsidy to utility companies. Other task forces highlight efforts to, among others, reduce the advocacy of labor, to increase the prevalence of private prisons and to inhibit the ability of states to dictate protocols for identifying railcar contents.

To make a donation to support KBOO and continue this vitally important work, call 877-500-5266, come by the station at 20 SE 8th Avenue in Portland, or go to KBOO.FM anytime from now until May 17th to pledge your support. Pledges at the sustaining level of \$10 dollars a month or more will receive a special gift of a two gig flash drive full of 'The Best of KBOO Public Affairs,' including exclusive recordings of: W.E.B. DuBois, Paul Robeson, Kwame Ture/Stokely Carmichael, Dick Gregory, Susan Faludi, Molly Ivins, bell hooks, Ernest Callenbach, Ward Churchill, John Trudell; Greg Palast: Billionaires and Ballot Bandits; Howard Zinn's final interview; and much more.

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