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## Labor, Social Justice Advocates Decry ALEC Meeting

POSTED BY ALEXANDER NGUYEN ON JULY 22, 2015 IN POLITICS | 455 VIEWS | [LEAVE A RESPONSE](#)

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Thousands of protesters were gathering outside the Manchester Grand Hyatt to protest ALEC this week in San Diego. Photo courtesy of Diane Takvorian

More than 1,000 protesters aligned with organized labor and social justice organizations demonstrated Wednesday in downtown San Diego against an organization that they contend allows corporate lobbyists to cozy up to lawmakers.

The organization, the [American Legislative Exchange Council](#), is meeting this week at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

A spokesperson for ALEC, which bills itself as the nation's largest nonpartisan voluntary membership organization of state legislators, could not be reached for comment.

The council is governed by state legislators who comprised the board of directors and is advised by the Private Enterprise Advisory Council, a group of private, foundation and think tank members. On its website, the group touts limited government, free markets and federalism.

Francine Busby, chairwoman of the [San Diego County Democratic Party](#), called ALEC a group of extremists and, at a news conference before the peaceful demonstration, demanded that Mayor Kevin Faulconer not make a speech at the conference.

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