

November 17, 2014

eBay Inc.
2065 Hamilton Avenue
San Jose, California 95125

To:

John Donahoe, President and CEO, eBay Inc.
Pierre M. Omidyar, Chairman and Founder, eBay Inc.
Michael Jacobson, Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs, General Council, and Secretary, eBay Inc.
Alan Marks, Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications, eBay Inc.
Robert Swan, Senior Vice President, Finance and CFO, eBay Inc.
Tod Cohen, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel - Government Relations, eBay Inc.

We, eBay sellers and customers who believe in eBay's corporate values, are writing to ask you to end your affiliation with the American Legislative Exchange Council, also known as ALEC.

Over the last few months, Microsoft, Google, Facebook, Yelp, Yahoo, and AOL have ended their ALEC membership because of their concerns about the harmful role ALEC has played in our democratic process. This includes concerns with ALEC's policy stands, its secretive practices, and its effort to treat what most people consider a lobbying operation as "charitable" activity. This last concern has generated at least three separate complaints to the Internal Revenue Service that contributions to ALEC should not in fact be treated as tax deductible. The public knows that the ALEC operation—which brings state legislators and corporate lobbyists behind closed doors to discuss proposed legislation and share lavish dinners—threatens our democracy. The public is asking eBay to stop participating in this scheme.

In August, Microsoft Corporation ended its affiliation with ALEC. Google followed shortly after, with Google Chairman Eric Schmidt stating on The Diane Rehm Show regarding ALEC's views on climate change, "We should not be aligned with such people – they're just, they're just literally lying." Just days later, Facebook announced that the corporation would likely end their affiliation with ALEC, and Yelp announced it had ended its ALEC membership months ago. The recent exodus of technology corporations was in part due to concerns over ALEC's extreme views; that extreme agenda includes denying the science of climate change, defunding public services, curtailing workers' rights and opposing net neutrality.

During their recent meetings in Dallas, ALEC officers and corporate lobbyists held training seminars to teach legislators how to block legislation that encourages clean energy solutions. Just last month, ALEC wrote a letter to the Federal Communications Commission in support of the Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger in which they signal their opposition to net neutrality.

As loyal members of the eBay community, we know that eBay's own corporate values stand in direct opposition to ALEC's agenda. EBay has been a leader in investing in clean energy alternatives, is a member of Business for Innovative Climate & Energy Policy (BICEP), and hosts an entire "green eBay" site. Yet eBay has not heeded requests to reevaluate your membership in ALEC, despite the fact that ALEC's agenda is severely out of step with your corporate culture.

We, the undersigned users of eBay, believe that—in the spirit of your organization's priorities and in the spirit of what is best for the American public—it is time for eBay to end its membership in ALEC.

Sincerely,

[NAME HERE]