



Lamar Alexander

United States Senator • Tennessee

U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander's Record of Achievement 2011

During the 112th Congress

Led fight against administration's attack on Boeing, right-to-work laws

Shortly after the National Labor Relations Board moved to stop Boeing from building airplanes at a nonunion plant in South Carolina, Senator Alexander began leading the fight against the administration's complaint. In an op-ed published in the Wall Street Journal, Alexander wrote that if the case set a new precedent, "Jobs would flee overseas as manufacturers look for a competitive environment in which to make and sell cars around the world." He introduced, with South Carolina's Republican senators, a bill to preserve federal law's existing protections of state right-to-work laws. In the weekly Republican address he was chosen to deliver, Alexander said, "Boeing is America's largest exporter, but we want them to export airplanes, not jobs." Later in the year, the administration withdrew its complaint against Boeing.

Defended small businesses and employers against "Obamacare"

Alexander voted to repeal the entire health care law, as well as fought for the repeal of certain provisions, such as the requirement regarding 1099 forms, which was successfully repealed. In a speech on the Senate floor, Alexander said that several national chain restaurant owners have made it clear that the law will "wipe out profits, reduce workforces, and cut future expansion and job creation." Alexander was continuing the fight he began in 2010 at the president's Blair House Summit, where, as the lead-off Republican speaker in rebutting the Administration's health care proposal, Alexander debated the president over whether his proposal would raise individual insurance rates. The Congressional Budget Office confirmed that Alexander was right.

Led the Republican Message

As chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, Senator Alexander served as third in Republican leadership in the US Senate. With this position, the Senator works through collaboration with fellow Republicans to lead the message of his party.

Supported Recovery Efforts after the 2011 Storms

On trips to see the flooding in Memphis and the tornado damage in East Tennessee, Alexander saw firsthand the devastating effects of the storms on Tennessee homeowners and businesses. He called on the president to quickly approve Governor Haslam's request for a disaster declaration, and he worked to help homeowners receive the appropriate FEMA funds.

Legislation

This year, Senator Alexander:

Was principal sponsor (or lead Republican) of legislation that passed the Senate

- **PREEMIE Reauthorization Act** -- A bill to expand research, education, and intervention activities related to preterm birth, which is the number one cause of infant death in America. With more than 200 premature babies born on average each week in Tennessee, this bill would ensure continued federal support for the scientists and doctors who are looking into the causes of premature births and how we can prevent them.
- **Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011** – A bill to eliminate Senate confirmation on 169 executive nominations to junior positions and almost 3,000 noncontroversial Officer Corps positions – such as members of the Public Health Service Officer Corps and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Officer Corps. The bill will help avoid the trivialization of the Senate's constitutional duty of advice and consent and make the Senate more effective and better able to focus on bigger issues like our massive debt and out-of-control Washington spending.
- **American Eagle Day Resolution** – A resolution designating June 20, 2011, as "American Eagle Day", and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

Was principal sponsor (or lead Republican) of 4 pieces of legislation:

- **Medicare IVIG Access Act** – A bill to examine the benefits of providing Medicare coverage and payment for the infusion of intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) at home for patients with primary immunodeficiency diseases.
- **Teacher and Principal Improvement Act** – A bill to help states and local school districts prepare, train, and recruit effective teachers and principals to improve student achievement, through locally developed teacher and principal evaluation systems, while maintaining strong reporting requirements to empower parents and the community. The bill would authorize the Teacher Incentive Fund to allow states and school districts to compete to find ways to pay teachers and principals more for teaching well. It reduces paperwork through simplified Title II State plans.
- **Job Protection Act --** A bill to preserve federal law’s protections of state right-to-work laws, in response to move by the National Labor Relations Board to stop Boeing from building airplanes at a nonunion plant in South Carolina, suggesting that unionized American company cannot expand its operations into one of the 22 states with right-to-work laws, which protect a worker’s right to join or not join a union.
- **State Innovation Pilot Act of 2011** – A bill restricting the authority of the U.S. Secretary of Education in granting waivers to states from No Child Left Behind’s outdated provisions, preventing him from using the opportunity to turn the department into a national school board.
- **Cross State Air Pollution Act** – A bill to enact a proposed cross-state air pollution rule into law but give utilities one additional year to implement it. It would ensure that Tennesseans don’t suffer from dirty air blowing in from other states, but that the rule is enacted at the lowest possible cost to ratepayers.
- **Promoting Electric Vehicles Act of 2011** – A bill to help with the wide-scale adoption of electric vehicles by increase research and development efforts and establishing pilot project communities that can help identify barriers to consumer adoption.
- **GREAT Teachers and Principals Act** – A bill to create and expand innovative teacher and principal preparation programs.
- **Commission on Effective Regulation and Assessment Systems for Public Schools Act** – A bill to establish the Commission on Effective Regulation and Assessment Systems for Public Schools, to examine the effect government regulations have on elementary and secondary education and recommend ways to align and improve those regulations to improve performance and innovation.

Cosponsored the following legislation that passed the Senate:

- **National Day of Remembrance for Nuclear Weapons Workers** – A resolution recognizing the efforts of the thousands of Americans – more in Tennessee than in any other state – who worked behind the scenes during the Cold War in nuclear weapons facilities. America won the Cold War in part because of their sacrifice for the credibility of our nuclear deterrent.
- **Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act Reauthorization of 2011** – A bill to improve the nation’s public health preparedness by improving the federal government’s disaster planning.
- **Senate Continuing Resolution 13**– A resolution honoring the service and sacrifice of members of the United States Armed Forces who are deployed now or who have served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan or Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn in Iraq.
- **National Charter Schools Week** – A resolution congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of charter schools across the United States for ongoing contributions to education.
- **Senate Resolution 182** – A resolution expressing the condolences of the United States to the victims of the devastating tornadoes that touched down in the South in April 2011, and commending the resiliency of the people of the affected States, including the people of Tennessee, and committing to stand by the people affected in the relief and recovery efforts.
- **National Nurse-Managed Health Clinic Week** – A resolution celebrating national nurse-managed health clinics, which provide primary care and prevention services, especially in areas with fewer primary care physicians.
- **Small Business Saturday** – A resolution designating November 26, 2011, as "Small Business Saturday" to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses.

Cosponsored the following legislation that passed out of committee:

- **Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2011**– A bill to continue support to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs.
- **Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act of 2011, or the PROTECT IP Act of 2011**– A bill to prevent online threats to economic creativity and theft of intellectual property.

- **Safe Doses Act** – A bill to fight theft of prescription painkillers throughout the supply chain. Tennessee ranks second in the nation for prescription drug use—much of which is legitimate, but some of which is abusive
- **Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2011** – A bill to extend the temporary office of 30 bankruptcy judgeships in states including Tennessee.
- **North American Wetlands Conservation Extension Act of 2012** – A bill to continue the restoration and protection of North American wetlands.
- **Balanced Budget Amendment Resolution** – A joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Cosponsored other significant legislation, including:

- **Marketplace Fairness Act** – A bill to close the online sales tax loophole that prevents states from collecting sales tax from online sellers, distorting the marketplace by subsidizing some businesses at the expense of other businesses and subsidizing some taxpayers at the expense of other taxpayers
- **State Flexibility Act** – A bill to repeal amend the Medicaid Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements imposed on states by the stimulus and recent health care law and save \$2.8 billion over five years, according to the Congressional Budget Office
- **Commission on Congressional Budgetary Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies** – A bill establishing a commission to assess the effectiveness and accountability of agency programs
- **Financial Takeover Repeal Act of 2011** – A bill to repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act
- **Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act** – A bill to repeal the health care law’s burdensome requirement that businesses file tax forms every time they paid more than \$600 to a vendor or business
- **Cut, Cap, and Balance Act of 2011** – A bill that would cut federal spending immediately, cap all future spending, and require that Congress pass a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution
- **Repeal the CLASS (Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Act) Entitlement Act** - Repeals the establishment under the new health care law

of a new long-term care program that even the Democratic Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee called a “Ponzi scheme.”

- **American Liberty Restoration Act** – A bill to restore American's individual liberty by striking the health care law's mandate to purchase insurance
- **American Job Protection Act**– A bill to protect American job creation by striking the health care law's job-killing employer mandate
- **State and local sales tax deduction** – A bill to amend the tax code to permanently extend the state and local sales tax deduction
- **Stop Unfair Giveaways and Restrictions Act of 2011** – A bill phase out the sugar support program and save consumers billions of dollars
- **Life at Conception Act** – A bill declaring that the right to life guaranteed by the Constitution is vested in each human being at the moment of fertilization, cloning, and other moment at which an individual comes into being
- **Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act** – A bill to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
- **Medical Care Access Protection Act of 2011**– A bill to limit medical malpractice suits and improve patient access to medical care
- **Keystone Pipeline** – A bill to require the Secretary of State to act on a permit for the Keystone XL pipeline
- **Biennial Budgeting and Appropriations Act**– A bill requiring the federal budget to cover a two-year period, rather than a single year, to allow for scrutiny of spending during the intervening year
- **Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act of 2011** – A bill to continue a successful voucher program for low-income students in Washington, D.C.
- **Secret Ballot Protection Act of 2011**– A bill to guarantee the right of every American worker to have a secret ballot election on whether to unionize
- **CAP Act of 2011** – A bill that would set an across-the-board, binding cap on all federal spending
- **Energy Tax Prevention Act of 2011**– A bill to prevent the Environmental Protection agency administrator from regulating greenhouse gases

- **Commercial Driver Compliance Improvement Act** – A bill to save both truckers and the government in time, paper, and money by requiring the use of electronic on-board recording devices in commercial trucks
- **Ensuring Pay for Our Military Act of 2011** – A bill to ensure that service members are paid in the event of federal government shutdown
- **Reduce Unnecessary Spending Act** – A bill to provide an optional fast-track procedure for submitting requests to cut unnecessary spending.
- **Regulatory Responsibility for our Economy Act** – A bill to require federal agencies to consider the costs of proposed regulations and the impact on business.
- **Regulatory Time-Out Act** – A bill to suspend the implementation of certain regulation for one year if the regulations will have an adverse impact on job creation and the economy.
- **Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act** – A bill to prevent ammunition from being regulated by the EPA
- **REFUND Act** – A bill to allow states to identify and return unwanted federal funds to the federal Treasury in order to help pay down the national debt
- **Fair Representation in Elections Act of 2011** -- A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to ensure fairness in election procedures with respect to collective bargaining representatives
- **Honest Budget Act** – A bill to provide for greater transparency and honesty in the Federal budget process.
- **Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act** – A bill to prohibit the National Labor Relations Board from ordering any employer to close, relocate, or transfer employment under any circumstance.
- **Waiver of Work Requirements for Welfare Programs Joint Resolution** – A joint resolution disapproving and nullifying an administration rule to waive the 1996 welfare reform law's mandatory work requirements.
- **Empowering Parents through Quality Charter Schools Act** – A bill to modernize the federal charter schools program by incentivizing the development and expansion of high-quality charter schools, reduce administrative burdens, and increase funding opportunities.
- **Empowering Local Educational Decisionmaking Act of 2011** – A bill to streamline and consolidate 59 federal elementary and secondary education

programs into 2 flexible block grants that allow state and local governments to better determine how to direct funding and meet local education needs.

- **National Guard Empowerment and State-National Defense Integration Act of 2011** – A bill to enhance the national defense through empowerment of the National Guard, enhancement of the functions of the National Guard Bureau, and improvement of Federal-State military coordination in domestic emergency response, and for other purposes.

For a complete list of legislation sponsored and cosponsored by Senator Alexander, please visit: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

Was honored for his legislative work by numerous groups, including:

- Spirit of Enterprise Award from *The United States Chamber of Commerce*
- Defender of the Mountains from *The Alliance for Appalachia*
- ACU Conservative Award from *The American Conservative Union*
- Guardian of Seniors' Rights Award from *The 60 Plus Association*
- 2010 Defender of Children Award from *First Focus*
- 2011 Legislator of the Year from *The National Council for Community Behavior Healthcare*
- Randy Moody Friend of Education Award from *The National Education Association Republican Educators Caucus*
- Friend of the National Parks Award from *The National Parks Conservation Association*
- Champion of the Merit Shop Award from *The Associated Builders and Contractors*
- Tigrett Award – *West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation*

Also authored the following:

- **“Call for Cuts Gets Louder” Op-ed in the *Tennessean*** – “The federal government this year is collecting \$2.2 trillion and spending \$3.7 trillion. Forty cents of every dollar the federal government spends is borrowed, much of it from China. We are piling up new debt at the rate of \$4 billion a day. Last month was the shortest month of the year, yet the deficit in just that month was the largest in history: \$223 billion....[Congress] needs the president of the United States to join us in an effort to stop our country from spending money we don't have and in making difficult decisions about spending, so we can ensure the strength and future of our country.”

<http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=08cc3e31-7e06-4e3f-9e86-33595cfc2d3&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>

- **“One year later, health care reform remains a mistake” Op-ed in the *Knoxville News Sentinel*** – “This past Wednesday marked the one-year anniversary of President Barack

Obama's signing into law the health care bill that some in Washington consider a historic achievement. I believe it was a historic mistake. ... We often talk about the law of unintended consequences in dealing with legislation. In this case, I believe the health care law is a situation where we have had predictable consequences. Republicans and the CBO said premiums would rise because of the president's health reform plan. And, predictably, they have.”

http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=5789d71e-dffe-4815-8f46-0633e0bd2273&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>

- **“The White House vs Boeing: A Tennessee Tale” Op-ed in *The Wall Street Journal***— “In 1980 Nissan chose Tennessee, a state with almost no auto jobs. Today auto assembly plants and suppliers provide one-third of our state's manufacturing jobs. ... But now unions want to make it illegal for a company that has experienced repeated strikes to move production to a state with a right-to-work law. What would this mean for the future of American auto jobs? Jobs would flee overseas as manufacturers look for a competitive environment in which to make and sell cars around the world. “

http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=940fa1ac-e0e2-4d96-8207-138cac33fef8&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>

- **“Sept. 11 Demands Grasp of American Values” Op-ed in *Tennessean*** – “What does it mean to you to be an American? After Sept. 11, I proposed an idea I call the ‘Pledge Plus Three.’ Why not start each school day with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a teacher or student sharing for three minutes “what it means to be an American”? ... Our history is the struggle to live up to the ideals that have united and defined us from the beginning, the principles of the American character. If that is what students are taught about Sept. 11, they will strengthen our country for generations to come.

http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=65c1f5ef-12eb-4136-b586-ed18c55bc410&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>

- **“A Better Way to Fix No Child Left Behind” Op-ed in *The New York Times*** – “Last week President Obama, citing a failure by Congress to act, announced a procedure for handing out waivers for the federal mandates under the No Child Left Behind law. Unfortunately, these waivers come with a series of new federal rules, this time without congressional approval, and would make the secretary of education the equivalent of a national school board. However, there is another way. Earlier this month, several senators and I introduced a set of five bills that would fix the problems with this important federal law.”

http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=52fcd8da-c2ec-47b0-99f1-17e53b8d1469&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>

- **“Marketplace Fairness: Closing the Online Sales Tax Loophole” Joint op-ed with Sen. Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.) in *National Review Online*** – “Over the last 20 years, many

states and online sellers have agreed voluntarily to close the online sales tax loophole and to stop subsidizing some businesses and some taxpayers at the expense of others. States and Main Street retailers are now reminding Congress that, under our nation's Constitutional framework, states should have the right to decide for themselves whether to collect — or not to collect — their own state sales taxes. As Republicans who believe in states' rights, we agree.”

<http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=9c45481a-5486-493e-b4ff-6db311382589&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>

- **“It's time to close the online sales-tax loophole” Op-ed in *Tennessean***– “The owner of the Nashville Boot Co. told me recently that people come into his store and try on his boots and get his advice, and then they go home and buy the boots online so they won't have to pay the sales tax. That wastes his time, the wages he pays his employees, and the money he spends to keep the store open. Above all, it isn't right.” <http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=NewsArticles&ContentRecord_id=cf45a067-94a1-4a0c-9bf2-970234a77947&ContentType_id=cc3ac18e-c52f-4861-b310-83ea6a7150c1&Group_id=303dc633-2307-45c8-ae71-4ba2ace2189b&YearDisplay=2011>