

Altria—Which Called The Insurrection "A Dark Day In American History" And Paused Contributions—Gave \$84,500 To The Sedition Caucus And Has Contradicted Its Claims To Support Democracy And Oppose Voting Restrictions

SUMMARY: So far in 2021, Altria has given \$84,500 to the Sedition Caucus even after calling the insurrection "[a dark day in American history](#)," calling for the "[peaceful transition of power](#)," and suspending all of its political contributions.

Although Altria claims to engage "[responsibly with policy makers at all levels of government](#)," an Accountable.US review has revealed more instances of the company not fully adhering to its stated positions on supporting democracy:

- As state-level Republicans advanced voter restrictions after Trump's 2020 loss, Altria declared that "[voting is a foundational democratic process](#)" and that it would [review its political contributions](#) accordingly—even as the company echoed unfounded concern about election "[integrity](#)," which drove both the wave of [voter restrictions](#) and the [insurrection](#) in 2021.
- Altria—which prominently claims to advocate for [anti-racist policy](#)—has given [\\$13,000](#) to Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, who [signed](#) a 2021 law that was called "[Jim Crow 2.0](#)" for limiting ballot access through "legal maneuvering and political schemes."
- Altria has given [\\$47,500](#) to Texas Gov. Greg Abbott—who helped advance and signed into law the state's "[sweeping](#)" voter restrictions—and [\\$22,000](#) to Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton—who called the restrictions "[great](#)" and who has targeted [72%](#) of his voter fraud cases against people of color.
- Altria claims a commitment to [human rights](#) and the [United Nations' Global Compact](#), which guides companies on respecting [the rule of law](#)—and even highlights a case example of a company helping to prevent "[violence](#)" and "[promote stability during elections](#)."

Altria Gave \$84,500 To The Sedition Caucus After Claiming It Suspended All Political Contributions Following The Insurrection, Which It Called "'A Dark Day In American History'" And Calling For The "'Peaceful Transition Of Power.'"

So Far In 2021, Altria Has Donated \$84,500 To Republicans That Would Not Certify President Biden's Victory.

Company	Member	Amount	Date
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Morgan Griffith (VA-09)	\$6,000	9/22/21; 9/22/21; 6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Richard Hudson (NC-08)	\$5,000	6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Kevin McCarthy (CA-23)	\$5,000	6/24/21

Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Sen, John Kennedy (R-LA)	\$5,000	10/21/21; 6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Steve Scalise (LA-01)	\$5,000	6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. David Rouzer (NC-07)	\$5,000	6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)	\$3,500	9/22/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Jackie Walorski (IN-02)	\$2,500	7/29/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Buddy Carter (GA-01)	\$2,500	9/22/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Tom Cole (OK-04)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Andy Harris (MD-01)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Rob Wittman (VA-01)	\$2,500	9/22/21; 6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Ben Cline (VA-06)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Jeff Duncan (SC-03)	\$2,500	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Robert Aderholt (AL-04)	\$2,500	8/19/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Devin Nunes (CA-22)	\$2,500	9/22/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Tom Rice (SC-07)	\$2,000	7/29/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Diana Harshbarger (TN-01)	\$1,000	8/19/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (TN-03)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Gary Palmer (AL-06)	\$1,000	8/19/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Lloyd Smucker (PA-11)	\$1,000	8/19/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Mike Johnson (LA-04)	\$1,000	9/22/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. David Kustoff (TN-08)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Ron Estes (KS-04)	\$1,000	6/24/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. John Rose (TN-06)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Carol Miller (WV-03)	\$1,000	7/29/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Debbie Lesko (AZ-08)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Greg Steube (FL-17)	\$1,000	10/21/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Stephanie Bice (OK-05)	\$1,000	9/22/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Lisa McClain (MI-10)	\$1,000	10/21/21

Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Steve Chabot (OH-01)	\$1,000	9/22/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Elise Stefanik (NY-21)	\$5,000	11/17/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Darrell Issa (CA-50)	\$1,500	11/17/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (PA-14)	\$1,000	11/17/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Greg Pence (IN-06)	\$1,000	11/17/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (NY-11)	\$1,000	11/17/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Michelle Fischbach (MN-07)	\$1,000	11/17/21
Altria Group, Inc Political Action Committee	Rep. Kat Cammack (FL-03)	\$1,000	11/17/21
	Total:	\$84,500	

[Accountable.US, Corporate Donations Tracker, accessed [12/22/21](#)]

Altria Called The Insurrection "A Dark Day In American History" As It Announced That It Would Suspend All Political Contributions And Said It Looked Forward To "The Peaceful Transition Of Power."

After The Insurrection On January 6, 2021, Altria Said It "Strongly Condemns The Violence That Occurred At The U.S. Capitol" And Called It "A Dark Day In American History" As It Looked Forward To "The Peaceful Transition Of Power." "Altria strongly condemns the violence that occurred at the U.S. Capitol. January 6 was a dark day in American history, and we look forward to the peaceful transition of power that will occur on January 20." [CNN, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

Altria Also Announced That It Would "Suspend All Political Contributions While We Re-Examine Our Existing Contribution Criteria And Guiding Principles." "We have a long history of supporting policy makers on both sides of the aisle because participation in the political and public policy processes is vital to our business, and serves the best interests of our shareholders, employees, trade partners and adult consumers. We have spent the past few days discussing the right path forward and have decided, at this time, to suspend all political contributions while we re-examine our existing contribution criteria and guiding principles." [CNN, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

Altria Claims To Engage "Responsibly With Policy Makers At All Levels Of Government."

Altria Claims A Commitment To Engaging "Responsibly With Policy Makers At All Levels Of Government." "Public Policy Positions [...] Altria's commitment to our Vision means engaging actively and responsibly with policy makers at all levels of government." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

As State Voter Restrictions Advanced After Trump's 2020 Loss, Altria Declared That "Voting Is A Foundational Democratic Process" And Opposed Voter Suppression Even As It Echoed Unfounded Concern About Election "Integrity," Which Drove Both The Wave Of Voter Restrictions And The Insurrection In 2021.

As States Advanced Voter Restrictions Following Trump's Loss, Altria Declared That "Every Eligible Voter Should Be Able To Exercise Their Right To Vote" As It Claimed It Would Monitor Lawmakers' "Alignment" With Its Political Giving Guidelines.

As State Voter Restrictions Advanced Across The Country After The 2020 Election, Altria Stated, "Every Eligible Voter Should Be Able To Exercise Their Right To Vote" As It Claimed It Would Monitor Lawmakers' "Alignment With Out Political Contribution Guiding Principles When Making Future Contribution Decisions." "State legislators across the country who have pushed for new voting restrictions, and also seized on former President Donald Trump's baseless claims of election fraud, have reaped more than \$50 million in corporate donations in recent years, according to a new report by Public Citizen, a Washington-based government watchdog group. [...] Altria, the parent company of Philip Morris USA, said in a statement that 'every eligible voter should be able to exercise their right to vote' and pledged to monitor lawmakers' 'alignment with our political contribution guiding principles when making future contribution decisions.'" [Associated Press, [4/5/21](#)]

Altria Touts Its "Track Record" Of Supporting Groups That "Encourage Engagement In The Democratic Process," Including A Grant To National Urban League's Work To Support Civic And Voter Participation.

Altria Claims It Has "A Track Record Of Supporting Non-Profit Organizations That Encourage Engagement In The Democratic Process," Including A Grant To A National Urban League Initiative To Support Civic And Voter Participation. "Altria has long supported efforts to encourage employees and adult tobacco consumers to vote. Equally important, we have a track record of supporting non-profit organizations that encourage engagement in the democratic process. Most recently, as part of our commitment to address systemic racism faced by Black Americans and advance social and economic equity, we made a grant to the National Urban League's Equity, Justice and Democracy Initiative, which supports civic action and participation, including voter education and registration initiatives." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

Altria's Senior Vice President Of Government Affairs Declared "We Believe Voting Is A Foundational Democratic Process And Should Be A Non-Partisan Issue" In A Statement Opposed To Voting Restrictions And Their Harm Against Marginalized Communities...

Altria Issued A Statement Titled, "Where We Stand On Voting Rights." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

In The Statement, Altria's Senior Vice President Of Government Affairs Said, "We Believe Voting Is A Foundational Democratic Process And Should Be A Non-Partisan Issue." "The 2020 election was highly contentious and was conducted during a global pandemic that necessitated many emergency voting measures. Many states are now debating their election laws for the longer-term. We believe voting is a foundational democratic process and should be a non-partisan issue. All eligible individuals should have their voices heard at the ballot box." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

Altria Highlighted The Importance Of Voting While Acknowledging The Country's "Long History Of Sustained Efforts To Deny The Legal Right To Vote To Black Americans And Other Marginalized Groups." "While the right to vote is foundational to our democracy, it is a right, which for much of our history, was denied to millions of Americans. As a country, we have a long history of sustained efforts to deny the legal right to vote to Black Americans and other marginalized groups, including women, Native Americans, Latinos, and Asians.." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

Altria Claimed Stated That Voting Rights Legislation Should "Should Advance Principles Of Equality, Fairness, And Transparency" And " Encourage More, Not Fewer, Eligible Voters To Register And

Vote. "At Altria, we have a long history of engaging in public policy issues central to our business – primarily advancing Tobacco Harm Reduction and Preventing Underage Use. But responsibility is a journey, not a destination, and employees, consumers and investors increasingly expect companies to use their influence to address issues beyond what was once considered 'core' to the business. [...] Legislation impacting voting rights should advance principles of equality, fairness, and transparency, and should encourage more, not fewer, eligible voters to register and vote." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

Altria Claimed It Opposed Voting Laws That "Place Undue Burdens Or Unnecessary Restrictions On Voters." "At Altria, we have a long history of engaging in public policy issues central to our business – primarily advancing Tobacco Harm Reduction and Preventing Underage Use. But responsibility is a journey, not a destination, and employees, consumers and investors increasingly expect companies to use their influence to address issues beyond what was once considered "core" to the business. [...] Requirements governing how the right to vote is exercised should not place undue burdens or unnecessary restrictions on voters." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

...At The Same Time, Altria Echoed Concerns About Election "Integrity," Which Falsely Motivated The Wave Of Voter Restrictions In 2021 And Were Also The "Same Pretext" Of Voter Fraud That Drove The Insurrection.

In Its Voting Rights Statement, Altria Perpetuated Concern Over The Election "Integrity" And "Confidence In Our Electoral System." "Legislation should promote confidence in our electoral system while at the same time ensuring the integrity and fairness of the election process." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

Brookings Institution: Republican State Officials Used The "Same Pretext" Of Voter Fraud That Motivated The Insurrection To Advance Voter Restrictions Following The 2020 Election, Including In Georgia, Where The Law Added "Many Obstacles To Voting." "Just three short months ago, a violent mob overran our nation's Capitol Building to revolt against certifying Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 presidential election. Many of the rioters carried signs proclaiming 'Stop the Steal'—reflecting the lies that President Donald Trump and his team stoked about voter fraud. Today, many elected officials are using that same pretext to dismantle the voting rights won during the civil rights movement. [...] In Georgia, Governor Brian Kemp just signed into law a bill that adds many obstacles to voting, including reducing the number of ballot boxes, shrinking the window for early voting, adding additional photo ID requirements, and allowing state officials to circumvent the work of county election officials if they don't like the outcomes they are seeing." [Brookings Institution, [04/19/21](#)]

"Extensive Research" Has Shown That Voter Fraud "Is Very Rare, Voter Impersonation Is Virtually Nonexistent, And Many Instances Of Alleged Fraud Are, In Fact, Mistakes By Voters Or Administrators." "Politicians at all levels of government have repeatedly, and falsely, claimed the 2016, 2018, and 2020 elections were marred by large numbers of people voting illegally. However, extensive research reveals that fraud is very rare, voter impersonation is virtually nonexistent, and many instances of alleged fraud are, in fact, mistakes by voters or administrators." [Brennan Center for Justice, accessed [11/10/21](#)]

The Associated Press Found That The Insurrection Was "The Culmination" Of Several White Supremacist Displays During The Trump Administration, Including The Deadly "'Unite The Right'" Rally In Charlottesville.

Associated Press: Years of white supremacy threats culminated in Capitol riots [Associated Press, [11/15/21](#)]

The Associated Press Found That The Insurrection Was "The Culmination" Of Several White Supremacist Displays During The Trump Administration, Including The Deadly "'Unite The Right Rally." "Amid the American flags and Trump 2020 posters at the U.S. Capitol during last week's insurrection were far more sinister symbols: A man walking the halls of Congress carrying a Confederate flag. Banners

proclaiming white supremacy and anti-government extremism. A makeshift noose and gallows ominously erected outside. In many ways this hate-filled display was the culmination of many others over the past few years, including the deadly 2017 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, that gathered extremist factions from across the country under a single banner." [Associated Press, [11/15/21](#)]

- **"Extremist Groups" Had A Presence In The Insurrection, "Including The Pro-Trump, Far-Right, Anti-Government Oath Keepers And The Three Percenters."** "Extremist groups, including the pro-Trump, far-right, anti-government Oath Keepers and the Three Percenters, a loose anti-government network that's part of the militia movement, were among those descending on the halls of power on Jan. 6." [Associated Press, [11/15/21](#)]

Altria—Which Claims To Advocate For Anti-Racist Policy—Has Given \$13,000 To Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, Who Signed A 2021 Law That Was Called "Jim Crow 2.0" For Limiting Ballot Access Through "Legal Maneuvering And Political Schemes."

Altria Has Given \$13,000 To Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, Who In March 2021 Signed Into Law A "Restrictive New Voting Law" That Was Called "Jim Crow 2.0" Because Its "Legal Maneuvering And Political Schemes" Limits Ballot Access.

Altria Client Services Has Given \$13,000 To Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

- **Altria Client Services Provides " Legal, Regulatory, Consumer Engagement, Finance, Human Resources And External Affairs" To Altria Group.** "Other Altria wholly owned subsidiaries included Altria Group Distribution Company, which provides sales and distribution services to certain Altria operating subsidiaries, and Altria Client Services LLC ('ALCS'), which provides various support services in areas such as legal, regulatory, consumer engagement, finance, human resources and external affairs to Altria and its subsidiaries." [Altria Group, Inc. SEC Form 10-K, [02/26/21](#)]

March 25, 2021: Georgia Enacted Senate Bill 202, A "Restrictive New Voting Law" That Required ID For Mail-In Ballots, Shrank Early And Absentee Voting Windows, Limited The Amount Of Ballot Drop Boxes, Banned Giving Food And Water To Voters Waiting In Line At Polling Places, And Shifted Some Local Election Rule Oversight To The Legislature. "Corporate America has, once again, found itself in the crosshairs of politics with the passage of Georgia's restrictive new voting law, which was signed by Gov. Brian Kemp last week. The bill, known as SB 202, will increase voting restrictions for Georgians by requiring identification for mail-in ballots, shrinking the window for early and absentee voting, limiting the number of ballot drop boxes, banning the provision of food and water to voters waiting in line, and shifting control over local election rules to the state legislature, among other changes." [Vox, [04/05/21](#)]

- **March 25, 2021: SB 202 Was Signed Into Law And Was Made Effective Immediately.** [Georgia General Assembly, accessed [04/07/21](#)]

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp Signed SB 202 Into Law. "Corporate America has, once again, found itself in the crosshairs of politics with the passage of Georgia's restrictive new voting law, which was signed by Gov. Brian Kemp last week. The bill, known as SB 202, will increase voting restrictions for Georgians by requiring identification for mail-in ballots, shrinking the window for early and absentee voting, limiting the number of ballot drop boxes, banning the provision of food and water to voters waiting in line, and shifting control over local election rules to the state legislature, among other changes." [Vox, [04/05/21](#)]

Voting Rights Advocates Have Dubbed SB 202 "Jim Crow 2.0" Because It Blocks Ballot Access Via "Legal Maneuvering And Political Schemes" In The Same Way The Original Jim Crow Laws Did. "The

long struggle to block access to the ballot has always relied on legal maneuvering and political schemes to achieve what bullets and bombs alone could not. What legislators in Georgia and across the country have reminded us is that backlash to expanded voting rights has often arrived by a method that our eras have in common: by laws, like Georgia's Senate Bill 202, passed by elected politicians. Opponents of the new Georgia law denounce the legislation as 'Jim Crow 2.0' precisely because they recognize the continuities between past and present." [The New York Times, [03/31/21](#)]

One Of Altria's "Key" Policy Issues "Racial & Economic Equity" And Addressing What The Company Recognizes To Be "Systemic Racism."

On Of Altria's "Key" Policy Issues Is "Racial & Economic Equity" And The Company Acknowledges "Systemic Racism." "Key Issues For Us [...] Racial & Economic Equity Policy Activities Altria launched a Race & Equity Initiative across our companies and publicly committed to address systemic racism faced by Black Americans and advance social and economic equity." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

One Of Altria's 2025 Goals Is To "Address Systemic Racism And Advance Social And Economic Equity." "Our 2025 Goals [...] Address systemic racism and advance social and economic equity in the communities where we live and work." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

Altria Claims Credit For "Helping To Address Racial And Economic Inequities In The Communities Where We Operate." "Supporting our people and communities is a commitment we have long taken seriously. This commitment depends on our building an inclusive, diverse and equitable culture at Altria and its companies, helping to address racial and economic inequities in the communities where we operate, and building the capability and supporting the well-being of both our workforce and the community." Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

Altria Has Given \$47,500 To Texas Gov. Greg Abbott—Who Helped Advance And Signed Into Law The State's "Sweeping" Voter Restrictions—And \$22,000 To Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton—Who Called The Restrictions "Great" And Who Has Targeted 72% Of His Voter Fraud Cases Against People Of Color.

Altria Has Given \$47,500 To Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Who Helped Advance And Ultimately Signed Into Law The State's "Sweeping" Voter Restrictions—The Biden Administration Later Sued The State, Arguing The Law Would Disenfranchise Already-Vulnerable Voters.

Altria Client Services Has Given \$47,500 To Texas Governor Greg Abbott. [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

- **Altria Client Services Provides " Legal, Regulatory, Consumer Engagement, Finance, Human Resources And External Affairs" To Altria Group.** "Other Altria wholly owned subsidiaries included Altria Group Distribution Company, which provides sales and distribution services to certain Altria operating subsidiaries, and Altria Client Services LLC ('ALCS'), which provides various support services in areas such as legal, regulatory, consumer engagement, finance, human resources and external affairs to Altria and its subsidiaries." [Altria Group, Inc. SEC Form 10-K, [02/26/21](#)]

September 2021: Texas Governor Greg Abbott Signed Into Law "Sweeping" Voter Restrictions That Raised "New Barriers For Marginalized Voters." "Though delayed by Democratic quorum breaks, Texas has officially joined the slate of Republican states that have enacted new voting restrictions following the 2020 election. Gov. Greg Abbott on Tuesday signed into law Senate Bill 1, sweeping legislation that further tightens

state election laws and constrains local control of elections by limiting counties' ability to expand voting options. The governor's signature ends months of legislative clashes and standoffs during which Democrats — propelled by concerns that the legislation raises new barriers for marginalized voters — forced Republicans into two extra legislative sessions." [The Texas Tribune, [09/07/21](#)]

Abbott Earlier Helped To Advance The Restrictions By Calling A Special Legislative Session With An Agenda That Included "Election Integrity," Despite There Being "No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud." "Texas Republicans began the 2021 legislative session staging a sweeping legislative campaign to pass new voting restrictions and election rules, proposing significant changes to nearly the entire voting process and taking particular aim at local efforts to make voting easier. It was formally touched off by Abbott early this year when he named 'election integrity' one of his emergency items for the legislative session despite no evidence of widespread voter fraud. Republican lawmakers framed their push for SB 1 as an effort to safeguard elections from fraud and to standardize election practices." [The Texas Tribune, [09/07/21](#)]

November 2021: The Biden Administration Sued Texas Over Its New Voter Restriction Law, Arguing They "Will Disenfranchise Eligible Texas Citizens Who Seek To Exercise Their Right To Vote." "The Biden administration is suing Texas over the state's restrictive voting law that was signed into law in September and is set to go into effect Dec. 2. The U.S. Department of Justice filed a lawsuit in a federal court Thursday claiming that the Republican-led law contains several provisions that 'will disenfranchise eligible Texas citizens who seek to exercise their right to vote.'" [NPR, [11/04/21](#)]

Biden Justice Department Officials Argued The Voter Restriction Law Would Erect Barriers For 'Voters With Limited English Proficiency, Voters With Disabilities, Elderly Voters, [And] Members Of The Military.' "Justice officials say those people include 'voters with limited English proficiency, voters with disabilities, elderly voters, members of the military' who are deployed and American citizens who are out of the country. 'These vulnerable voters already confront barriers to the ballot box,' the DOJ says, 'and SB 1 will exacerbate the challenges they face in exercising their fundamental right to vote.'" [NPR, [11/04/21](#)]

Altria Has Given \$22,000 To Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, Who Called Texas' New Voter Restriction Law "A Great And A Much-Needed Bill" And Who Has Unfairly Filed 72% Of His Voter Fraud Cases Against People Of Color Since 2015.

Altria Has Given \$22,000 To Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

November 2021: After The Biden Administration Sued Texas Over Its New Voter Restriction Law, Ken Paxton Called The Law "A Great And A Much-Needed Bill," Despite No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud. "State Attorney General Ken Paxton wrote on Twitter: '[President] Biden is coming after Texas for SB1, our recently enacted election integrity law. It's a great and a much-needed bill. Ensuring Texas has safe, secure, and transparent elections is a top priority of mine. I will see you in court, Biden!'" [NPR, [11/04/21](#)]

- **November 2021: The Biden Administration Sued Texas Over Its New Voter Restriction Law, Arguing They "Will Disenfranchise Eligible Texas Citizens Who Seek To Exercise Their Right To Vote."** "The Biden administration is suing Texas over the state's restrictive voting law that was signed into law in September and is set to go into effect Dec. 2. The U.S. Department of Justice filed a lawsuit in a federal court Thursday claiming that the Republican-led law contains several provisions that 'will disenfranchise eligible Texas citizens who seek to exercise their right to vote.'" [NPR, [11/04/21](#)]
- **Texas Republicans Advanced Voter Restrictions Although There Was "No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud."** "Texas Republicans began the 2021 legislative session staging a sweeping legislative campaign to pass new voting restrictions and election rules, proposing significant changes to nearly the entire voting process and taking particular aim at local efforts to make voting easier. It was formally touched off by Abbott early this year when he named 'election integrity' one of his emergency items for the

legislative session despite no evidence of widespread voter fraud. Republican lawmakers framed their push for SB 1 as an effort to safeguard elections from fraud and to standardize election practices." [The Texas Tribune, [09/07/21](#)]

March 2021: An American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Study Showed That At Least 72% Of Voter Fraud Cases Prosecuted By Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton Were Against Voters Of Color, "Primarily Women Of Color," Since 2015 "Since Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton took office in 2015, the vast majority of individuals his office has prosecuted for voter fraud are people of color — and primarily women of color, a new analysis by the American Civil Liberties Union shows. The analysis, based on public records, court filings, media reports and assumptions based on common Hispanic surnames, found at least 72 percent of all the election fraud cases have been brought against Black and Latino defendants. At least 45 percent were against Black and Latino women." [Houston Chronicle, [03/24/21](#)]

Altria Claims A Commitment To Human Rights And The United Nations' Global Compact, Which Guides Companies On Respecting The Rule Of Law—And Even Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

Altria Touts A Commitment To Human Rights, Which The United Nations Associates With "Genuine Elections."

Altria Has A Page Dedicated To Its "Human Rights Framework" Which States, "Respect For People Is Fundamental To The Way We Conduct Business." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

The United Nations Office Of The High Commissioner On Human Rights States That "Genuine Elections" Are "Necessary And Fundamental" In Promoting Human Rights. "The right to take part in the conduct of public affairs, including the right to vote and to stand for election, is at the core of democratic governments based on the will of the people. Genuine elections are a necessary and fundamental component of an environment that protects and promotes human rights." [United Nations Office Of The High Commissioner On Human Rights, accessed [11/12/21](#)]

Altria Claims It Is Guided By The United Nations Global Compact, Which Outlines A "Business For Rule Of Law Framework" On How Companies Can "Respect And Support The Rule Of Law"—The Framework Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

Altria Claims That It Is Guided By The United Nations Global Compact And The United Nations Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights. "The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and national laws guide principles and policies for employees and our expectations for suppliers. To uphold and promote these principles, Altria's companies:" [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]

The United Nations Global Compact Outlines A "Business For Rule Of Law Framework" To Guide Companies On How To "Respect And Support The Rule Of Law." "Companies are invited to use the Business for Rule of Law Framework to take action in respecting and supporting the rule of law, serving as a complement to government action. The Framework provides guidance on how business can respect and support the rule of law in a way that business can relate to." [United Nations Global Compact, accessed [11/09/21](#)]

The United Nations Global Compact's Business For Rule Of Law Framework Highlights A Case Example Of A Company Helping To Prevent "Violence" And "Promote Stability During Elections."

"Companies can support the rule of law through core business, strategic social investment, public policy engagement, and collective action. The UN Global Compact has collected over 100 case examples of business action in support of the rule of law, including: [...] A mobile network operator, with the support of the government, developing guidelines to prevent bulk electronic messages inciting violence and sending messages of peace to promote stability during elections." [United Nations Global Compact, accessed [11/09/21](#)]

The United Nations' Guiding Principles On Business And Human Rights States Companies Should "Should Address Adverse Human Rights Impacts With Which They Are Involved." "II. THE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS A. FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES 11. Business enterprises should respect human rights. This means that they should avoid infringing on the human rights of others and should address adverse human rights impacts with which they are involved." [United Nations, accessed [11/09/21](#)]

Altria Claims "We Do What's Right" And The Company Claims To "Act Responsibly And Operate With Integrity" And To Drive "Social Impact."

Altria: "We Do What's Right" And "We Act Responsibly And Operate With Integrity, Both Individually And Collectively."

Altria: "We Do What's Right." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

Altria: "We Act Responsibly And Operate With Integrity, Both Individually And Collectively. We Listen, Question, And Speak Honestly." "We act responsibly and operate with integrity, both individually and collectively. We listen, question, and speak honestly. We collaborate to solve problems. We drive positive change by advocating for what we believe and acting on it, even when it's uncomfortable. We respect those who speak up." [Altria, accessed [11/9/21](#)]

One Of Altria's Goals Is To Drive "Social Impact."

One Of Altria's 2025 Goals Is To "Drive Business And Social Impact." "Our 2025 Goals [...] Drive business and social impact through engagement and partnership with a diverse portfolio of stakeholders." [Altria, accessed [11/18/21](#)]