

Heartland Biographies



Alan B. Smith

Heartland Senior Fellow

Alan B. Smith was named a senior fellow by the Chicago-based Heartland Institute in December, 2009. Smith works closely with Eli Lehrer, director of Heartland's Center on Risk, Regulation, and Markets (CRRM), on finance, insurance, and real estate issues. Heartland recently acquired the CRRM from the Competitive Enterprise Institute.

Smith most recently served as executive director of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), the nation's largest individual membership association of state legislators. ALEC has state legislator members from all 50 states and hundreds of private sector members. Smith was responsible for overall management of the policy, membership, public relations, legal, administrative, and meetings of ALEC. Smith has been involved with ALEC as an active representative of a member company for more than two decades and was a former member of ALEC's Private Enterprise Board.

During his career in corporate public affairs, Smith served two terms on the Strategic Planning Committee of the Council of State Governments, chaired the Property Casualty Committee of the Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania, and served two terms as Chairman of the Insurance Institute of Kentucky. He was also a president of the State Government Affairs Council, a Washington, D.C.-based national organization of public affairs professionals.

Smith, a former Chief Counsel to the Minority in the Ohio House of Representatives, managed a public affairs staff at a national trade association of consumer products manufacturers and suppliers, in addition to his work at two insurance companies. Smith is a former head of the enforcement section of the Ohio Division of Securities, and served as Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1969-1974.

Smith earned a B.A. in politics and government from Ohio Wesleyan University and a J.D. from The Ohio State University College of Law. He maintains residences in Washington, DC and Bexley, Ohio.

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To book Mr. Smith for radio interviews or to speak before your group, please contact Nikki Comerford at 312/377-4000, or by e-mail at nikki@heartland.org.