



TriNet

Subsidiaries: Zenefits Locations: California (HQ)

Industries: Accounting Payroll & HR Services



RISK LEVEL:

High Risk

DESCRIPTION:

TriNet is High Risk. The company yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company implements race and identity-based policies that replace merit, excellence, and integrity with preferential treatment and outcomes. TriNet embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues. This approach fails to safeguard free exercise, free speech, and free enterprise.

Corporate Weaponization

Has canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR Medium Risk corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries.

When Roe v. Wade was overturned, CEO of TriNet, Burton Goldfield, implied that business might decrease in states that institute anti-abortion policies, stating, "There is no doubt that decisions about where to invest and grow are influenced by laws that can have a negative effect on the business community" (1). TriNet received a score of 95 on the 2023 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. The company recruits employees based on sexual identity issues. The company discriminates against vendors that do not promote divisive sex and gender policies, indicating it prioritizes sexual issues over merit (2)(3)(4). The company has not publicly canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs (5).

Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate **High Risk** against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs.

TriNet's HRC CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2). TriNet does not appear to discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or beliefs (3).

Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are ideological in nature.

High Risk

TriNet's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company provides gender transition guidelines for its employees and a specific benefits guide with a comprehensive explanation of transgender services funded by the company (1)(2). TriNet has implemented DEI policies including a week-long virtual DEI conference about "microaggressions" and unconscious bias (3). TriNet does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (4).



Corporate Governance and Public Policy

Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression.

TriNet's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy (1)(2). By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. TriNet released an article on the company site denouncing various state-level LGBTQ and election security laws and signed an open letter in support of the Equality Act, a controversial bill (3)(4). The company was part of the Freedom for All Americans coalition, which advocated for federal legislation that would overrule state laws designed to protect girls' sports and similar laws (5). TriNet also hosted Stacey Abrams as an "Esteemed Speaker" at a company event, where she gave a DEI-focused speech (6). TriNet opposed various state and local legislation intended to protect parental rights, girls' sports, bathroom facilities, and gendered spaces (7).

Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom High Risk of expression.

TriNet provides a benefits package for employees that covers travel/lodging costs for an abortion and transgender medical procedures for covered employees and dependents, including children (1)(2). The company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company covers transgender related costs for its employees and their children, including paid short-term leave, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, chest surgeries, genital surgeries, medical visits and lab monitoring, travel and lodging. Additionally, the company has pledged philanthropic support of at least one organization or event that promotes sex and gender ideology (3)(4). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. In 2021, TriNet donated to StartOut, the "largest nonprofit organization supporting LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs (5)(6)." Otherwise, TriNet has not used corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies (7).

Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business High Risk purposes.

TriNet's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company publicly advocated for controversial sex and gender ideology through local, state or federal legislation or initiatives (1)(2). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. TriNet has not used its PAC donations or lobbying for ideological purposes (3)(4)(5).

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