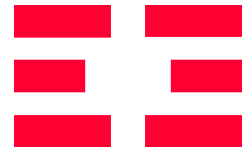


L.L.Bean

**L.L.Bean**

Locations: Maine (HQ)

Industries: Consumer Durables and Apparel, Retailing

**RISK LEVEL:****High Risk****DESCRIPTION:**

L.L. Bean scored a 90 on the 2023 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. By complying with the HRC's controversial demands, L.L. Bean increases the risk of dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. The company covers transgender-related medical costs for its employees and their children. It also uses sex and gender ideology criteria in employee recruitment, vendor selection, marketing, and philanthropic support. L.L. Bean forces employees to undergo multiple ideological trainings and uses its reputation, corporate funds, and political influence to support controversial sex and gender ideologies, organizations, and legislation. The company discriminates against religious organizations in its charitable giving. L.L. Bean has donated to LGBTQ advocacy groups and racial equity organizations. For these reasons, L.L.Bean receives a High Risk rating.

**Corporate Weaponization**

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

*L.L. Bean received a score of 85 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 (1)(2). However, it has not publicly terminated business relationships due to religious beliefs or political views.*

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

*The L.L. Bean charitable giving program will not give to "political, sectarian, fraternal or religious organizations" (1). L.L. Bean's HRC CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (2)(3).*

**Employment policies fail to protect against discrimination based on political affiliation/views and/or religion.** **Medium Risk**

*L.L. Bean's HRC 2023 CEI rating indicates the company forces employees to attend multiple, controversial trainings on gender identity, sexual orientation, transgender issues, and divisive racial ideology (1)(2). The company protects its employees against viewpoint discrimination (3).*

## Corporate Governance and Public Policy

**Uses corporate reputation to support ideological causes and/or organizations hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk**

*L.L. Bean's HRC 2023 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. The company advocates for DEI-focused workplace policy through its partnerships and blog posts (3)(4).*

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

*L.L.Bean's pride campaign, Get Outside with Pride, donates to the EqualityMaine Foundation and OUT There Adventures (1)(2). L.L.Bean donated \$120,000 to racial equity organizations in support of Black Lives Matter (3). L.L.Bean's HRC 2023 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 (4)(5). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders.*

**Uses corporate political contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. High Risk**

*L.L. Bean's HRC 2023 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. L.L. Bean does not operate a PAC or engage in lobbying at this time (3)(4)(5).*

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