



Tyson Foods

Subsidiaries: Hillshire Brands Locations: Arkansas (HQ)

Industries: Food Beverage and Tobacco



RISK LEVEL:

High Risk

DESCRIPTION:

Tyson Foods 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. Tyson Foods 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.

Tyson Foods' received a score of 70 on the 2025 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, the company has not publicly canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs (3).

Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate

High Risk against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs.

Tyson Foods HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2). The company will not fund "Organizations that discriminate toward any racial, ethnic or cultural group" (3). Tyson Foods likely uses Benevity as its charitable giving platform. Benevity vets charities according to the Southern Poverty Law Center's Hate List, which includes mainstream libertarian, conservative, family, and religious advocacy organizations (4)(5)(6).

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

High Risk

Tyson Foods HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company provides a specific benefits guide with a comprehensive explanation of transgender services funded by the company ($\underline{1}$)($\underline{2}$). In May 2024 America First Legal filed a letter with the EEOC requesting a civil rights investigation into Tyson over discriminatory practices in hiring and business management ($\underline{3}$)($\underline{4}$). The company's leadership has completed unconscious bias training ($\underline{5}$). However, the company does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees ($\underline{6}$).



Corporate Governance and Public Policy

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

Tyson Foods HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy. By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders (1)(2). The company signed an open letter endorsing the Equality Act, a contentious proposal to amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act by adding sexual orientation and so-called gender identity as protected categories. The legislation would, among other implications, grant biological men access to women-only spaces such as sports teams and public restrooms, and compel healthcare providers to deliver sex-denying healthcare (3). CEO Donnie King is a member of the Business Roundtable, which supports stakeholder capitalism over traditional shareholder obligations (4). The company's CEO, Donnie D. King, signed the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion pledge, which includes a commitment to promote DEI through bias education training in the workplace (5)(6).

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

Tyson Foods HRC 2025 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. By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders (1)(2). The company pledged \$5 million to the Black Lives Matter movement and related causes, including the National Urban League (3)(4). The company is a member of the MCCA, indicating its focus on recruiting, retaining, and promoting employees based on race (5)(6). Otherwise, there are no publicly known cases of the company using 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.

Tyson Foods HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company publicly advocated for controversial sex and gender ideology through local, state or federal legislation or initiatives. By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders ($\underline{1}$)($\underline{2}$). The company has not used its PAC donations or lobbying for ideological purposes ($\underline{3}$)($\underline{4}$)($\underline{5}$).

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