Predatory Loan Prevention Act – SB 1792 (Belt-Collins / Harper-Smith)

The Predatory Loan Prevention Act would prohibit lenders from charging more than 36% APR (annual percentage rate) on consumer loans. In Illinois, the average APR on a payday loan is 297%, and the average APR on a title loan is 179%. Federal law already protects active-duty military with a 36% APR cap. This bill would extend the same protection to Illinois veterans and all other consumers. Seventeen states plus the District of Columbia have caps of 36% or lower.

Too many Illinoisans suffer from high-cost, predatory loans. Illinois families pay over $500,000,000 per year in payday and title loan fees – the fourth highest in the nation. Nearly half of Illinois payday loan borrowers earn less than $30,000 per year.

High-cost, small dollar loans exacerbate the racial wealth gap and drive inequity. In Chicago, zip codes in communities of color represent 47% of the City’s population but have 72% of the City’s payday loans. You are 13 times more likely to have a payday loan if you live in the Austin neighborhood as compared to Lincoln Park.¹

Predatory lending is a bipartisan issue. Large majorities of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents support a 36% cap. South Dakota approved a 36% cap in 2016 with over 75% voting in favor of the cap. Nebraska approved a 36% cap on payday loans in 2020 with over 80% voting in favor of the cap. The experience in other states shows that, after establishing a 36% cap, consumers turn to other strategies (e.g., cutting expenses) and other products. For example, since South Dakota’s cap, the volume of consumer loans by credit unions increased significantly.²

The Real Cost of Small Consumer Loans
These are real auto title loans taken out by Mark, a lifelong Chicagoan who retired after 42 years working for the Postal Service.³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Title Loan</th>
<th>Second Title Loan</th>
<th>Total Borrowed:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loan Amount: $1,095</td>
<td>Loan Amount: $1,500</td>
<td>$2,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR: 304.17%</td>
<td>APR: 304.17%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees: $5,595.96</td>
<td>Fees: $7,665.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan term: 24 months</td>
<td>Loan Term: 24 months</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Owed: $6,690.96</td>
<td>Total Owed: $9,165.60</td>
<td>$15,856</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Data from IL Payday Loan Database (2019).
Support for the Predatory Loan Prevention

Industry
Affirm
American Fintech Council
Avant
Best Egg
Capital Good Fund
Great Lakes Credit Union
Lending Club
Marlette Funding
Prosper
Seaway, a division of Self-Help FCU
Second Federal, a division of Self-Help FCU
SoFi
Upstart

Government
City of Chicago Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot
Congressman Jesús G. “Chuy” García
Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle
Cook County State’s Attorney Kim Foxx
Attorney General Kwame Raoul
Secretary of State Jesse White
State Treasurer Michael Frerichs
Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza
Evanston Mayor-Elect Daniel Biss
Ald. Raymond A. Lopez, 15th Ward, Chicago
Ald. Pat Dowell, 3rd Ward, Chicago
Ald. Andre Vasquez, 40th Ward, Chicago
Ald. James Cappleman, 46th Ward, Chicago
Ald. Maria Hadden, 49th Ward, Chicago
Mayor Tari Renner, City of Bloomington
Ald. Jennifer Jazmin Carrillo Gomez, 6th Ward, Bloomington
Ald. Jeff Craybill, 8th Ward, Bloomington
Dr. Peter Schwartzman, Ald. 5th Ward, Galesburg

National Advocates
Americans for Financial Reform
Black Veterans Project
Center for Responsible Lending
Consumer Federation of America
Insight Center for Community Economic Development
High Ground Veterans Advocacy
Minority Veterans of America
National Community Reinvestment Coalition
National Consumer Law Center
National Housing Law Project
Prosperity Now
Veterans for Common Sense

Illinois Clergy
Rev. Robert Freeman, Urbana
Rev. Kelly J. Youngblood, Bourbonnais
Rev. Robert Bushey, Kankakee
Rev. Dr. Eugene Barnes, Champaign
Rev. Janet Eggleston, Galena

Illinois Clergy (cont.)
Rev. Violet Johnicker, Brooke Road United Methodist Church, Rockford
Rev. Tony Pierce, Pastor, Heaven’s View Christian Church, Peoria
Rabbi Rebecca L. Dubowe, Bloomington
Rev. Violet Johnicker, Brooke Road United Methodist Church, Rockford
Rabbi Rebecca L. Dubowe, Bloomington
Cliff Parks, Heaven’s View Christian Fellowship, Peoria
Pastor Kent King-Nobles, Normal
Rev. Frank Langhoff, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Rockford
Msgr. Doug Hennessy, Bloomington
Rev. Alphonso Lyons, Jr., Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Peoria
Presiding Elder, Rev. Tyson J. Parks, Danville
Sister Joan Schullian OSF, Decatur

Illinois Advocates
AARP Illinois
Age Options
Asian Americans Advancing Justice
Breakthrough
Brighton Park Neighborhood Council
Catholic Conference of Illinois
Center on Tax and Budget Accountability
Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
Chicago Community Loan Fund
Chicago Food Policy Action Council
Chicago Jobs Council
Chicago Urban League
Chinese American Service League
Citizen Action / Illinois
COFI
Col. Paul Kantwill, USA (Ret); Prof., Loyola Univ. School of Law
Collaborative for Health Equity Cook County
Community Renewal Society
Credit Builders Alliance
Economic Security for Illinois
Elevate Energy
Englewood Community Connection Outreach Corp
EverThrive Illinois
Equity and Transformation
Faith Coalition for the Common Good
Family Independence Initiative Chicago
Gamaliel of Illinois
Garfield Park Community Council
Grassroots Collaborative
Heartland Alliance
High Ground Institute
Housing Action Illinois
Housing Choice Partners
HomeStart
Illinois Action for Children
Illinois Asset Building Group
Illinois Association of Area Agencies on Aging (I4A)
Illinois Advocates (cont.)
Illinois Partners for Human Service
Illinois People’s Action
Illinois Public Interest Research Group (IL PIRG)
Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Consumer Advocates
Illinois Conference of Churches
Jane Addams Resource Corporation
Jewish Council on Urban Affairs
Junior Achievement of Chicago
Latinx Voice
Lawyers Committee for Better Housing
Legal Action Chicago
LIFT, Inc.
LISC Chicago
Live Free Illinois
Logan Square Neighborhood Association
Metropolitan Family Services
Metropolitan Planning Council
Mujeres Latinas En Acción
NAACP Peoria Chapter
New America Chicago
North Lawndale Employment Network
Northwest Side Housing Center
OAI
Phalanx Family Services
POWER-PAC IL
Preservation of Affordable Housing Communities
Revolution Workshop
Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity
SEIU Healthcare IL IN
Shriver Center on Poverty Law
Southwest Organizing Project
The Low Income Utility Advocacy Project
The People’s Lobby
The Resurrection Project
Unitarian Universalist Advocacy Network of Illinois (UUANI)
United Congregations of Metro East
United Way of Illinois
Voices for Illinois Children
Women Employed
Woodstock Institute
Working Credit NFP
Youth Job Center
YWCA Metropolitan Chicago