

Illinois Needs a Strong Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Illinois Households Remain Financially Fragile

Without the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), abusive financial practices caused a devastating economic crisis. Illinois families lost jobs, homes, and savings – and many have not recovered. While jobs have returned for some, families are financially fragile. According to the Federal Reserve almost half of all households don't have enough savings to cover a \$400 unexpected expense.

Some Financial Services Strip Wealth from Illinois Communities



Student Loans: In 2016, Illinois students left college with an average of more than \$37,000 in student loan debt. Many of these students, who often leave schools without a diploma, are victims of abusive student lenders and servicers.



Payday Loans: Illinois payday loan borrowers pay more in interest than they received in principal for payday installment loans. In 2011 \$232.5 million in interest paid vs. \$223.1 million in principal received.



Title Loans: Between 2009 and 2013, the average title loan fees increased by 47.9% in Illinois. In 2013, Illinois borrowers paid an average of \$25.5 million per month in fees to title lenders.



Prepaid Cards: An estimated 361,000 Illinois households used prepaid cards last year. Without the CFPB's new prepaid card rule, Illinois consumers would not have basic fraud protections and would be subject to abusive overdraft features.

The CFPB Assists Families Impacted by Illegal & Risky Financial Services

We need a strong and independent CFPB to rein in predatory practices in mortgage lending, student loans, credit cards, debt collection, payday and title lending and more. **The CFPB has received 26,840 consumer complaints from Illinoisans.** Top complaints from Illinois focus on mortgages, credit reporting, debt collection & bank accounts. Illinois needs the CFPB to continue to be a strong regulator of these products to make sure that the marketplace works for consumers.

CFPB Ensures Money Stays in our Communities & Families are Protected

Over the past 5 years the CFPB has:

- Returned 11.7 billion dollars in restitutions to 27 million consumers impacted by illegal and predatory financial practices. This money is returned to communities – supporting local economic activity.
- Provided millions of dollars in relief to servicemembers and their families and raised awareness of systemic vulnerabilities of military families in the financial marketplace.
- Developed tools to help people make financial decisions like paying off debt, buying a home, going to college, and saving for retirement.
- Resolved over one million consumer complaints
- Through rule making, made the mortgage marketplace safer, leading to decreased foreclosure rates.

Questions: Contact Jody Blaylock at Heartland Alliance – jblaylock@heartlandalliance.org

The Following Illinois Organizations Support a Strong CFPB

Asset Building Strategies

Center for Changing Lives

Citizen Action Illinois

Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network

Chinese American Service League

Community Organizing and Family Issues

Health & Medicine Policy Research Group

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights

Housing Action Illinois

Illinois Asset Building Group

Illinois Public Interest Research Group

Ladder Up

Navicore Solutions

Northwest Side Housing Center

Parents Organized to Win, Educate & Renew – Policy Action Council

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Woodstock Institute

Working Credit NFP