



Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending

Dear coalition partner,

June 3, 2009

Congratulations! And thank you for your participation in the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending. After four incredible years fighting to rein in payday lenders, we are thrilled to have won an amazing victory for Washington consumers. This legislation is a first step that paves the way for further protections.

ESHB 1709 was signed by the Governor on May 15, 2009. The provisions in this bill will help stop the cycle of high-cost, long-term debt by giving payday loan borrowers more options and time to repay their loans. For the first time since payday loans were legalized in our state in 1995, Washington consumers will have protections that help them successfully repay their payday loans. A national expert on payday lending estimates that **this new law could save Washington consumers \$100 million a year in fees!**

Protections in this bill include immediate access to a repayment plan and an extended minimum loan term. This bill also includes a database that helps the Department of Financial Institutions enforce these important provisions and helps lawmakers assess the effectiveness of this legislation. Together, these provisions go a long way in interrupting the cycle of debt and helping borrowers break free of the debt trap.

Your participation in the coalition shows that by joining **together we can achieve great victories in the fight for economic justice**. Unlike payday lenders, we do not have access to billions of dollars to fight for our cause. What we have on our side is the undeniable truth that no one in our communities should be forced to pay outrageous amounts for a small loan to help them through a crisis.

Right now we need to educate people about their rights under the new law. I've attached a short fact sheet that you can give out. **Consider putting the information about the new law in your next newsletter**. I can e-mail you with sample text for an article to get you started. **In addition, I would be happy to give a presentation at your member meeting or event**. Please contact me at the number below.

Congratulations again! **In one of the hardest sessions in our state's history**, we've achieved one of the very few victories for working people. We look forward to working together as we continue to rein in predatory lenders in Washington!

Sincerely,

Danielle Friedman
APPL Campaign Manager

APPL exists in order to endorse the passage of fair and reasonable consumer protections on predatory lending that will reduce poverty and create safer and stronger communities in Washington State. Members of APPL include:

AARP of Washington	Mario Paredes, Consejo Executive Director
ACORN Housing	Pierce County Asset-Building Coalition
ACORN of Washington State	Pierce County Human Service Coalition
Amer. Fed. of Government Employees 3197	Lua Pritchard, Korean Women's Assoc.
Amer. Fed. of Teachers 1789	Progressive Majority
Asian Counseling and Referral Service	Puget Sound Alliance for Retired Americans
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance	Puget Sound Naval Bases Association
Asian Pacific Islander Coalition	Tom Rasmussen, Seattle City Councilmember
Associated Ministries of Pierce County	Real Change
CASA Latina	Retired Public Employees Council, Chapter 3
Catholic Community Services of W. WA	Rural Resource Community Action
Children's Alliance	Seattle/King Cty Asset Bldg Collaborative
Church Council of Greater Seattle	Seattle Women's Commission
Coalition of Labor Union Women	Service Employees Int'l Union 775
Consumer Credit Counseling Svs of Yakima	Service Employees Int'l Union WA State Cncl
Council on Aging and Human Services	Ron Sims, King County Executive
David Della, Seattle City Councilmember	South Sound Outreach Services
Dept. of Def., Defense-State Liaison Office	Spokane Regional Labor Council
Solid Ground	Statewide Poverty Action Network
Jean Godden, Seattle City Councilmember	Tacoma Goodwill
Larry Gossett, King County Councilmember	The Military Coalition
Hunger & Nutrition Coalition	United Food & Commercial Workers 21
International District Housing Alliance	United Indians of All Tribes Foundation
Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center	VOICES, Spokane
League of Women Voters of Washington	Washington Association of Churches
Legacy of Equality, Leadership and Organizing (LELO)	Washington Community Action Network
Low-Income Housing Institute	Washington Fed. of State Employees 304
Mike Lowry, Former WA State Governor	Washington Food Coalition
Lutheran Public Policy Office of WA State	Washington Homeownership Center
Martin Luther King, Jr. County Labor Council	Washington Low Income Housing Alliance
Metropolitan Development Council - Tacoma	Washington Responsible Lending Coalition
Military Officer's Association of America	Washington State Building & Construction Trades Council
Minority Exec. Director's Coalition (MEDC)	Washington State Catholic Conference
National Association of Social Workers WA	Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Council of Jewish Women- Seattle Section	Washington State Democratic Party
National Military Family Association	Washington State Labor Council
Next Church, Tacoma WA	Washington State Trial Lawyers Association
North Columbia Community Action Council	Washington State Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice
Northwest Progressive Institute	Washington State Veterans Leg. Coalition
Northwest Women's Law Center	WashPIRG
Office & Professional Empl. Int'l Union 8	YWCA – Bellingham
OneAmerica	YWCA of Seattle- King- Snohomish County
Opportunities Industrialization Center – WA	
Pantry Shelf of Walla Walla	