



The United Methodist Church
North Carolina Conference – Raleigh Area
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Representative Timothy Keith Moore
305 East King Street
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Dear Representative Moore,

As a leader in the faith community in North Carolina, I thank you for your public service and support you in my prayers.

I write to you to urge your attention to predatory lending law as you prepare for the 2015 Legislative Session.

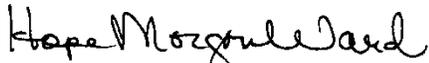
Our state has in place laws that help people protect their homes, families and fiscal health while saving millions of dollars every year in excessive interest rates and abusive fees. These laws also protect and strengthen our economy by keeping individual finances strong and keeping millions of dollars in North Carolina that would otherwise be taken out-of-state by predatory financial firms.

It is widely expected that efforts will be made in the legislature to weaken these laws. I am especially concerned that payday, car title and consumer finance lenders will once again hire dozens of lobbyists in an attempt to remove North Carolina's common sense protections against these abusive practices. Study after study has demonstrated the harmful effects of payday and car title loans that trap borrowers in debt at triple-digit interest rates. I also understand that consumer finance companies may propose legislation that would allow them to also make triple-digit interest rate loans in our state. The business model of these companies involves trapping people in debt. This is an abusive and unethical practice that I hope you will oppose.

Please remember that one of the best gifts that you can give to your constituents is acting to keep 400% annual interest payday loans and 300% annual interest car title loans out of North Carolina. Please use your influence to stop any efforts to increase the already high interest rates or fees on our small consumer loans.

Thank you for your efforts to protect the people of our state from usurious lending by maintaining our strong anti-predatory lending laws.

With gratitude for your leadership in our state,


Hope Morgan Ward