



ALLIANCE FOR
RESPONSIBLE LENDING
IN ALABAMA

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ARLA to Host Interfaith Prayer Service and March for Fair Lending Practices

BIRMINGHAM, AL., November 3, 2015 --- The Alliance for Responsible Lending in Alabama (ARLA) will host an **Interfaith Prayer Service for Fair Lending on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 2100 4th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.**

Following the service, which should last about 45 minutes, participants will process to **Linn Park** where a **press conference** is scheduled for **12:30 p.m.**

“People of faith have a moral responsibility to raise our voices regarding the abusive practice of predatory lending,” said Rev. Carolyn Foster, one of the organizers of the event. “It traps vulnerable people in a cycle of debt that is almost impossible from which to be freed. We have a moral responsibility to work for change that is fair.”

Alabama’s special interest carve-outs allow lending institutions to charge 456% APR on payday loans and 300% APR on automobile title loans, trapping citizens into a cycle of debt and putting them at risk for vehicle repossession.

ARLA is a network of congregations, nonprofits and community groups working together to end predatory lending practices in Alabama. Its mission is to advocate for the reform of Alabama’s laws governing small-dollar lending in order to eliminate predatory practices, educate the public about harmful lending practices and products and encourage the development and marketing of viable alternative loan products.

ARLA members include: *AARP of Alabama, Alabama Appleseed, Alabama Asset Building Coalition, Alabama Possible, Alabama State Conference of the NAACP, Arise Citizens’ Policy Project, Birmingham Faith in Action, Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, Birmingham-Southern College, First Presbyterian Church, Gateway Financial Freedom, Greater Birmingham Ministries, Leading Edge Institute, Interfaith, Mission Service Neighborhood Housing Services of Birmingham, Southern Poverty Law Center, The Women’s Fund of Greater Birmingham, Tuscaloosa Citizens Against Predatory Practices, YWCA Central Alabama and Zonta Birmingham.*

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