



ABOUT NYRL

New Yorkers for Responsible Lending (NYRL) is a state-wide coalition that promotes access to fair and affordable financial services and the preservation of assets for all New Yorkers and their communities.

NYRL is dedicated to fighting predatory practices in the financial services industry, through policy reform, education and outreach, research and direct services.

WHO WE ARE

NYRL members include community financial institutions, community-based organizations, affordable housing and foreclosure prevention groups, advocates for seniors, legal services organizations, and community reinvestment, fair lending, and consumer advocacy groups.

Established in 2000, NYRL has more than 150 member organizations throughout New York State.

2011 POLICY PRIORITIES

New Yorkers for Responsible Lending (NYRL) calls on the NYS legislature to enact urgently-needed policy reforms to:

Prevent Unfair Foreclosures

Require Lenders to Prove They Have Legal Right to Sue

New Yorkers continue to face alarmingly high rates of foreclosure, and the crisis shows no signs of abating. Longstanding abuses in the loan servicing and foreclosure processes have made the crisis worse. The recent “robo-signing” scandal — in which mortgage servicers were caught filing tens of thousands of false affidavits with the courts in foreclosure cases — has underscored the scale of mortgage servicer abuses.

Ensure Fair Debt Collection Practices

Pass the NYS Consumer Credit Fairness Act

Each year, consumer debt buyers file hundreds of thousands of debt collection lawsuits in NYS. They buy consumer debts for pennies on the dollar and aggressively pursue New Yorkers through the courts — frequently suing people who paid back their debts years ago, or the wrong person altogether. Routinely failing to provide notice to the people they’ve sued and taking advantage of the courts, debt buyers extract billions of dollars from the lowest income New Yorkers and communities.

Ensure Fair Access to Jobs

End Unfair and Discriminatory Employer Credit Checks

A growing number of employers are checking the credit histories of job applicants and employees, and using the information to deny people jobs and other opportunities. This practice blocks qualified applicants — including people whose credit was damaged as a result of medical debts, divorce, layoffs or other life events beyond their control — from desperately-needed jobs. It discriminates against low-income New Yorkers and people of color, who have been disproportionately affected by the economic downturn, and stalls our state’s economic recovery.