

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Don't be fooled

Missourians for Responsible Lending doesn't aim to reform consumer lending. It aims to eliminate it through the bludgeon known as the "Payday Ballot Initiative."

This special interest group portrays all Missouri credit lenders as being evil and aggressive. But the reality is that Missourians have many safe and affordable credit options, which this irresponsibly designed initiative would kill. Traditional installment loans, for example, structure payment plans in installments to protect clients from the same cycle of debt that the group claims to target. Yet by mislabeling all small-dollar loans

as "payday," the "Payday Ballot Initiative" targets these vital traditional loans as well.

The group claims that there are no safe credit options in Missouri. If we sign their petition and put it on the ballot in November, we'll be that much closer to making that statement true. If asked to sign the petition, just say, "No, thank you."

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Hannibal