

February 22, 2016

Dear Senator Schaefer,

On behalf of the more than 146,000 activists and grassroots members of Americans for Prosperity, Missouri and United for Missouri, we are writing in opposition to SB 785. This bill will trample the free market, set artificial price controls that will eliminate competition in the marketplace, and restrict access and limit choice for Missourians.

Consumer legal funding is a tool that individuals use to monetize a personal asset and take control of their own financial destinies. A government-imposed rate cap of 21% will destroy the market for the asset and eliminate the right of Missourians to use their own property as they see fit. The proposed rate cap in SB 785 will effectively eliminate a financial option and take away Missourians' freedom to make their own decision about what is best for them and their families.

Big insurance companies are trying to deprive Missourians of their economic freedom in order to promote their own special interests. This effectively undermines individual and economic liberty and creates an artificial dependence on government programs. All of this is contrary to the core beliefs of our organizations and members.

It is not the place of the Missouri Legislature to put one industry out of business at the behest of another industry. That is why the Founding Fathers of our country established a free market society. To our knowledge, the only people pushing for this legislation are high paid lobbyists for the trillion-dollar insurance industry.

President Andrew Jackson said "The duty of government is to leave commerce to its own capital and credit as well as all other branches of business, protecting all in their legal pursuits, granting exclusive privileges to none." We agree.

We strongly urge you to withdraw SB 785 from consideration by the Progress and Development Committee.

Sincerely,

Rachel Payton, Deputy State Director
Americans for Prosperity, Missouri

Carl Bearden, Executive Director
United for Missouri

Ryan Johnson, President
Missouri Alliance for Freedom

cc: Missouri State Senators

