

Perdue Signs Bill to Help Homeowners Avoid Foreclosure

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Governor Bev Perdue signed a bill into law today that helps homeowners work with their lenders to avoid foreclosures.

According to the Governor's office, the bill is called The Consumer Economic Protection Act of 2009. Perdue says the new law will protect homeowners against what she calls unfair debt collectors.

The new law give the Clerk of Court presiding over a foreclosure hearing the power to ask what steps have been taken to prevent foreclosures and to continue the hearing for up to 60 days to allow homeowners and lenders more time to negotiate a solution.

The new law also protects consumers from debt buyers aggressively filing lawsuits to collect on the debt without proving that they have the right to enforce the debt and verify the amount owed.