

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection,)	
)	Case No. 1:20-cv-04176
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	
)	
Townstone Financial, Inc.)	
)	
Defendant.)	

**DEFENDANT TOWNSTONE FINANCIAL, INC.’S MOTION TO DISMISS
PLAINTIFF’S COMPLAINT**

Defendant Townstone Financial, Inc. (“Townstone”), by counsel, and pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6), respectfully moves this Court to dismiss the complaint (the “Complaint”) filed by Plaintiff, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (the “Bureau”). The grounds for this Motion are further set forth in the Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion to Dismiss (“Memorandum”), which is filed contemporaneously herewith. As further explained in the Memorandum:

1. The Complaint fails because contrary to the express language used in the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (“ECOA”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1691–1691f, the Bureau and ECOA’s implementing Regulation B, 12 C.F.R. § 1002.4(b), improperly seek to:
 - a. expand the reach of ECOA to reach “prospective applicants”;
 - b. regulate “discouraging” behavior before a “credit transaction” even exists, and;
 - c. create affirmative advertising and hiring requirements, which cannot be squared with the unambiguous language of the statute.
2. Even if such an expansion is appropriate under the statutory scheme, Regulation B

and the Bureau's interpretation thereof runs contrary to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution because the Bureau seeks to regulate the content and viewpoint of protected speech and does so in a way that is unconstitutionally overbroad and vague, both as applied to Townstone and facially.

3. Similarly, Regulation B and the interpretation thereof are also unconstitutionally vague in violation of the Fifth Amendment's due process clause, both as applied to Townstone and facially.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons and the reasons set forth in its Memorandum, Defendant Townstone Financial, Inc. respectfully requests this Court to dismiss the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection's Complaint with prejudice and for all other relief just and proper in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sean P. Burke

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 23, 2020 a copy of the foregoing was filed electronically. Service of this filing was also made by operation of the Court's CM/ECF system:

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