

**From:** mail.relay@mailmanager.net [mailto:mail.relay@mailmanager.net] **On Behalf Of**  
Lawrence Thompson  
**Sent:** Friday, March 09, 2007 3:20 PM  
**To:** Director of Regulatory Management Division  
**Subject:** Immigration fees

Lawrence Thompson  
234 Shawnee Dr  
Carol Stream, IL 60188-1977

March 9, 2007

Director of Regulatory Management Division  
US Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security  
111 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 3rd floor  
Washington, DC 20529

Dear Director of Regulatory Management Division:

I am devoting the remainder of my life after retirement to helping the immigrant community in my neighborhood. I love these people and see in them the future of America.

I help them apply for immigration benefits. These people for the most part are working at very low wages and are struggling to support their families. They, like so many first-generation immigrants before them, including many of our forebears, really do appreciate the opportunity that is before them in the US and want to succeed and contribute to our society. Our economy and our society is enriched by the positive attitudes and values that immigrants bring to us.

The projected very sharp increase in application fees is incomprehensible to me other than as another expression of a hateful, anti-immigrant spirit that is so prevalent these days in our land. Since the increase will only make application impossible for many or will take food from the mouths of immigrant children, I can only imagine that the motivation is to hinder these families from seeking residency or citizenship.

I have regular classes for folks preparing for the citizenship English and civic exam. When we are finished they actually know more about US civics than the typical native-born American. Again, I can only view the plan to increase the complexity of the civics questions as a way to deny these people citizenship and diminish the number of applicants.

I ask you to please oppose the plan to raise fees and make more complicated the civics examination. I still want to think of my country as one that welcomes the immigrant. We have more to lose than to gain from these initiatives.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Thompson  
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