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Sent: Friday, March 02, 2007 11:59 AM
To: OSComments
Subject: [Docket No: USCIS-2006-0044]; [FR Doc: E7-01631]; [Page 4887-4915]; Immigration: Benefit application fee schedule adjustment

These proposed increases are excessive and will create yet another obstacle for individuals seeking to adjust their immigration status. The proposed fee increases will place too heavy a burden on the backs of immigrants, many of whom cannot shoulder the excessive costs and will be forced to postpone their dreams of becoming U.S. citizens or remain separated from their families.

The size of the proposed fee increases is particularly troubling since the Bush administration has indicated that it wants to help immigrants become U.S. citizens. For example, the current fee to apply for permanent residency is \$325; CIS proposes to raise this fee to \$905 (a 178 percent increase). The fee for naturalization ("citizenship") applications would increase from \$330 to \$595 (an 80 percent increase). These exorbitant fees would create undue economic hardship for many applicants and their family members.

This is not the answer to the U.S.'s immigration problems. Why not find an alternative that does not have a disparate economic impact? Please decline to support this proposed legislation.

Thank you,
Nichole Buck Vanderslice