
From: vickil1228@atcnet.net [mailto:vickil1228@atcnet.net]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2007 10:02 PM
To: OSComments
Subject: USCIS-2066-0044

As a legal immigrant who arrived in the United States in July of 2002 I am outraged at the proposed fee increase to apply for permanent resident status. I complied with the conditions of the K-1 visa under which I arrived in the United States by marrying my husband, a U.S. citizen, on July 26, 2002. Unfortunately since my husband receives Social Security which is the only income in this home, we have been unable to complete any of the other requirements to allow me to become a permanent resident aside from having yet another medical. There simply isn't any spare money to apply for the change of status and yet now a fee increase will make any further action simply unattainable, especially since my passport also expires in April of 2007. What is even more outrageous is a proposed bill (The STRIVE bill) which allows illegal immigrants to pay a lesser fee of only \$500 for permanent status. As I see it those who wait in line and enter this country legally are being penalized for following the rules while those who have broken the rules are being rewarded. Poor Thomas Jefferson must surely be spinning in his grave as he sees yet another example of the government ignoring the Declaration of Independence. The line of which I speak is "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..." and yet that is no longer the case when it comes to immigration! No system is perfect and with bureaucracy involved things become increasingly muddled, and nowhere is this more apparent than with the immigration branch. Perhaps it is time that legal immigrants were rewarded for following the rules, instead of rewarding those who break the law!

Sincerely,
Vicki Larsen
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