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USCIS Comments

Dear USCIS Comments:

I am writing this letter in staunch opposition to the proposed rule "Adjustment of the Immigration and Naturalization Benefit Application and Petition Fee Schedule."

While slight increases in USCIS fees are to be expected due to increased costs, the proposed increases are unreasonable and unjustifiable. A prime example is the I-765 fee that international students must to pay to apply for Optional Practical Training work authorization, which, under the proposed fee schedule, would almost double from \$180 to \$340. This benefit is one that could easily be administered by authorized schools (as it was under the former INS). These schools are still allowed to grants other benefits such as program extensions and Curricular Practical Training. If these benefits are still to be unnecessarily administered by the USCIS, the maximum the student should be charged is the cost of processing the application. The I-765 fee is also charged to students requesting work authorization due to Severe Economic Hardship. The are students with serious, unforeseeable, short-term financial difficulty. \$180 is already an extremely difficult fee for them to assume, but simply \$340 is callous and unreasonable.

International students are an asset to all aspects of the United States. We are fortunate to have such talented and diverse individuals studying and working legally in our country. Opportunities should be available to them at a minimum fee - the actual cost of processing the application and nothing more.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Julie Harris
316-253-6119

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