

From: Tami Sutton [mailto:tamisutton@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2007 5:25 PM
To: OSComments
Subject: Protest of USCIS's intention to raise fees; docket number USCIS-2006-0044

Re: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; docket number USCIS-2006-0044

My name is Tami Sutton and I am a prospective mother of both a Chinese and Vietnamese child. My husband and I have attempted to have a child for over 5 years now. I have had three surgeries and countless doctor visits. We've been through an emotional roller coaster -- each time believing that this time would be the one that works, only to find that it wasn't.

It was a tough time but it led us to consider adoption. It took awhile for the idea to sink in, especially for my husband who had to come to grips with the fact that our child wouldn't contain his DNA, but once it did, we went at it with full hearts and a new hope that I can't even begin to describe. After considering many avenues, including domestic, we decided on China and Vietnam. It just felt right. I have nothing against domestic adoptions. I think they are a blessing to both the children and the parents; however, given the situation that I had been through, I knew I couldn't stand the possibility of the mother or father changing their mind and taking my baby away from me. With international adoption, that can't happen.

It's very important that you not raise the rates that affect the adoptions of international children. It is a good thing that the US is doing by allowing these adoptions. It benefits the children, ensures a good relationship with other countries, provides humanitarian aid, and creates happy parents of people like myself and my husband. Adoption itself is so very, very expensive, with a certain element of unknown that hangs over your head until your child is in your arms and you're standing on American soil again. Please don't make this journey any more expensive and stressful than it is.

In addition, many families are barely able to afford adoption right now. A 66% increase in rates (as is requested in some cases) will make adoption unfeasible for some would-be parents.

I hope that you will consider my words and take my pleas to heart. Please keep the rates as they are and, as an added bonus, lengthen the amount of time that the I-171 and fingerprints remain valid.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any further help.

Sincerely,
Tami Sutton

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