

Dear USCIS:

I am writing as a concerned U.S citizen to oppose the proposed application fee increases due to the deeply negative impact it will have in my community and many others. The increased fees are enormous averaging about 66% whereas an individual's salary increase is significantly less, averaging from 5-10%.

Permanency and citizenship are essential processes to full integration and participation in American society. Many low-income families simply cannot afford such high fees and will be forced to choose between the immediate needs of providing for their family or paying for application fees to achieve their dream of becoming permanent residents and citizens. Creating additional barriers of increasing fees will not only discourage many from applying but essentially deny many refugees and immigrants access to integrating and achieving the American Dream. This country is strengthened by the contributions of refugees and immigrants of all backgrounds and it is in our nation's best interest that we ensure that the path to citizenship is accessible for all eligible immigrants.

I urge USCIS to find alternative solutions to offset of the administrative costs of USCIS, such as getting the U.S. Government to allocate funding for your valuable work.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Atiyyah Edwards