

Raymond Pfriem
74 Stillmeadow Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45245

February 25, 2007

Director, Regulatory Management Division
U.S. C.I.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20529

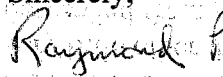
DHS Docket No.USCIS-2006-0044

Dear Director,

I am writing to express my strong concern and disagreement with the proposed rate increases for immigration expenses by the Bush administration and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. I have seen the new proposed fees and think they are excessive, and do not reflect well on the spirit on which this country has been and continues to be founded; namely the immigrant who arrives in the United States with very little other than a dream and a strong work ethic. I am a first generation American, descended from poor German and Polish immigrants who arrived at Ellis Island. They arrived in this country with very little more than the clothes on their backs, but worked hard and taught me (and my siblings) hard work and other American values. We have all become successful, law-abiding, tax paying citizens, and even have several family members who have graduated from college. We are highly appreciative of what America has done for us. However, there is no way that such a scenario could occur today, particularly with the staggering price hikes recently proposed.

I am also very proud to have a daughter-in-law who is a permanent legal resident of this country (from Colombia). She and my son are expecting their first child soon and have many expenses to handle. He is a teacher, and she, a teacher's aide. They work hard and want to have all the same opportunities as the rest of us. These immigration rate hikes will put an unfair burden on them as they begin their lives as an American family. Our entire family wants her to become an American citizen, thus ensuring that my son's family stays here in the United States. We are all exasperated by how difficult and expensive that process has become for them and feel that these price hikes are unnecessary and un-American. Mr. Director, please do not raise these immigration fees any higher than they already are.

Sincerely,


Raymond Pfriem