

From: Sanjeev Singh <singh_sanjeevk@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 8:44 PM
To: fee.setting
Subject: comment on Proposed Fee Schedule as Mandated by America Invents Act of September 4, 2012

Mail Stop – Office of the Chief Financial Officer,
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: Michelle Picard

Dear Ms. Picard,

I understand the need to increase most of the patent fees to comply with America Invents Act(AIA). And I also understand this will benefit most stake holders. But some of the fee increases are more than what independent inventors can handle even though as a small entity they will pay only half of the proposed increases.

To not make obtaining and maintaining of US patents unaffordable in view of the mandated changes to fees, I propose that as the small entity one should be asked to pay 1/3rd instead of 1/2 of the full patent fees. Following are my reasons to suggest this change.

1. This change of making the small entities to pay only 1/3rd instead of 1/2 of the regular patent fee amount will enable individual inventors to afford paying the steep increases in most patent fees.
2. The corporate world can absorb the increases in the patent fees rather easily than the individual inventors in this tough economy.
3. The proposed increase in patent fees will discourage many individual independent inventors to not file, obtain and maintain patents. This effect will defeat the intent and spirit of the America Invents Act.
4. Given that the high cost of hiring patent attorneys or patent agents in itself is already a high bar for the independent inventors to participate in the protection of IP rights but this huge increase in patent fees will make it next to impossible for many inventors to consider protecting their IP rights.

Please consider my proposal of reducing the fees to 1/3rd level of the regular level for the small entities.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

If you need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail or via phone at: 203-240-2539.

Best regards,
--Sanjeev

Sanjeev K. Singh, PhD
Independent Inventor
Danbury, CT