

**From:** [Robyn Briggs](#)  
**To:** [ee.setting@uspto.gov](mailto:ee.setting@uspto.gov); [TM FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)  
**Subject:** USPTO: Proposed LOP Fee  
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Hello,

I'm writing to you today as a small business owner who is becoming increasingly fed up with the overwhelming amount of frivolous trademarks being ISSUED by the USPTO. Most recently, DOGS, which is absolutely insane, as this is a single word in our English language, that has been around MUCH longer than any individual trying to trademark it as their brand. DOGS is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the number of things that are trademarked.

Because of these crazy, frivolous trademarks being approved, despite them very clearly NOT meeting all the requirements, small business owners such as myself are being bullied by owners of these outrageous trademarks and constantly getting takedowns issued on our businesses. As a graphic designer, it's really quite sad when I have to check if a common everyday saying is trademarked before I design something.

The proposal to charge for LOP's is absolutely insane. This would in fact be the nail in the coffin for small business owners such as myself. While it may seem taxing going through all of those LOP's, perhaps you should be taking a look at the legitimacy of the trademarks being put through the system. Systems are supposed to be in place to stop silly trademarks like the above mentioned (and SO many others that I just don't have the time to continue to list). Why not charge more for a trademark to deter those looking to trademark their brand? Why not tack on a fee to someone's application should they be denied and deemed a frivolous request.

I strongly oppose the LOP fee that has been proposed and can only pray that this doesn't pass, as this would ultimately kill my small business, and cause even more "trademark bullies" to continue to corner the market on common everyday words and sayings.

Thank you for your time.

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