

**From:** [Melinda Todd](#)  
**To:** [TM FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#); [Fee.Setting](#)  
**Subject:** Fee Setting  
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I would like to express my opposition to the USPTO's proposed \$100-200 fee for Letters of Protest. I am an artist and I earn a living through the use of my designs and digital art creations that involves the use of words.

I recently learned about the Letter of Protest process - a way for me to have a voice and a say in the process, similar to voting really. I spend my time looking up a phrase or word to see if it is actually widely in use commercially and if so, submit my findings to the USPTO.

It would be cost prohibitive for me to have to not only spend time doing research and submitting it to the USPTO but to also pay a fee to point out that an application is frivolous.

To have to pay to point out - with evidence attached - that a trademark application isn't meeting the USPTO requirements but is instead trying to eliminate competition seems counter-productive.

There needs to be some way for the public to comment on something that will affect so many businesses and livelihoods without opening their wallet at every turn. Some of us do not have this money to give.

Those seeking the potentially frivolous trademarks should be the ones hit in the pocketbook. If anything, make it more expensive to file for a trademark and this will eliminate some who are filing for common use words like DOGS or Sunday.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Melinda Todd

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