

**From:** [Melanie Russcher](#)  
**To:** [Fee.Setting](#); [TM.FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Letter of Protest Fees  
**Date:** Thursday, August 29, 2019 8:13:32 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

I am greatly concerned with the proposal to charge a fee for filing a Letter of Protest (LOP) with the USPTO. The number of frivolous and malicious patents that have been applied for (and awarded!) in recent years is concerning, with big business spending money to trademark commonly used words in order to shut down competition. By charging people a fee to voice their concerns regarding these applications the USPTO will be hindering people from voicing their concerns and will be aiding with the shutdown of small business!

With the increase in the number of LOPs being filed, I respectfully request that actions be taken against those people applying for frivolous and malicious patents, not those people being harmed by their actions. Perhaps a fee charged to the PATENT APPLICANT per LOP filed against them could help recoup the costs of reviewing?

Thank you for your time

--

Melanie Russcher