

**From:** [Dwayne Hans](#)  
**To:** [Fee.Setting](#)  
**Subject:** -Reduced fees or waivers for disenfranchised individuals-  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2016 2:51:45 PM

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[PROPOSED RULE COMMENT  
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Dated: Oct. 23, 2016

-UNITED STATES PATENT, AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-

I would like to see some guidelines in place or a program that is specifically geared towards disenfranchised individual independent inventors, and small businesses, a lot of great ideas and highly intellectual people are discouraged at some of the fees especially for International Designs, how are we to cultivate innovation, without cultivation?

Some of the very solutions to world problems are in our own backyards and inner-cities, and in Urban youth; who grow up in these impoverished communities know how to improvise almost instinctively, and come up with some fantastic and groundbreaking ideas only, to be shot down when fees are due and subsequent abandonment happens, after have coming so far in the patent process. Having experienced this first hand with several of my Intellectual properties in the past, this can be a crushing feeling of defeat.

I think that the opportunity should be available for people who are at lower income levels and or disadvantaged small business development company. Thank you for your time and allowing the public to input on the proposed rule changes for the USPTO.

Respectfully ,

/Dwayne C Hans/