To whom it may concern,

I, as someone who has had print on demand stores for years, am very disturbed by the idea you may soon charge for LOPs. Too often trademarks are being given out casually. Maybe you are short staffed, but it truly feels like the small businesses have to do a lot of work and get penalized because of it. If you pass a trademark for a common phrase many many small businesses are affected!

The law seems not to have caught up to the notion that one can easily 'print on demand' and words, phrases and even designs are already out there on many many designs of everything from t-shirts to mugs. Trademarks and even attempted trademarks are triggering massive take downs and being abused for content that has been available for years. Common words or phrases were surely never meant to be trademarked! Yet somehow, it is happening! We can't afford the legal fees to fight back, so those who would abuse the trademark office already have the upper hand.

Please don't punish us further by forcing us to pay a fee for trying to defend common words and phrases. Again I say 'Dogs?' You allowed dogs to be trademarked. There are billions of dogs t-shirts out there. I daresay the person doing it won't dare try and send a take down to Disney for Pluto or Warner Brothers for Scooby Doo. But the fact that even the big companies have such things out there is evidence of the insanity of having allowed such a frivolous trademark to start with.

If you want to charge a fee, it should go to those pushing frivolous trademarks and misusing the system. They are stealing both our time and yours. They are also taking the money away from us twice - we pay the tax dollars that pay you and that is money we are already losing as our business suffers the loss from frivolous trademark abuse.

If we are willing to take the time to fill out the LOP to prevent this, we are already losing money. Please don't take away our only means of fighting back.

sincerely

Terri Paxton