Sample Comments

***We strongly encourage you not to copy the sample comments below word for word, and instead use them as a guide to create your own unique comment. Comments must be submitted in English.***

I oppose the proposed rule “Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds” because:

• I object to this proposed rule, which is essentially a wealth test for hardworking immigrants striving to achieve the American Dream. It has not been proven that the new public charge tests immigrants would have to pass, such as a credit history check, English proficiency, or education, have any actual bearing on their potential. They seem more like barriers to prevent less affluent applicants from entering. No changes should be made and the current definition of public charge should remain in place.

• No family should have to make the choice between immigration status, stability and protection or receiving public benefits that keep their families fed, healthy and sheltered. This proposed rule would hurt families and the communities they live in, forcing localities to try to meet these vital humanitarian needs through social services, if any are available.

• Public benefits exist to help all hardworking families in America who need a little assistance to make ends meet. Placing this insurmountable barrier between immigrant families and the safety net could have disastrous effects on these families. Affected immigrants with manageable chronic conditions may be forced to abandon their health coverage, such as Medicaid or Medicare, in order to protect their families, leading to reliance on emergency rooms and other public health consequences.

• In addition to the societal consequences related to families affected by the rule, the rule’s chilling effect will make the resulting crises even greater. Immigrants afraid that the rule may apply to them or affect their status in the future may withdraw from benefits, impacting the health and well-being of their family members and communities.

• The proposed rule is inhumane, affecting families’ ability to access SNAP in order to get the adequate food and nutrition they need in order to maintain immigration status. Hunger and malnutrition affects a person’s ability to focus, function, and fight off disease. Hunger is already a serious problem in the United States. A proposal to add to this epidemic is against the public interest and the progression of our society.

Please mail comments to:

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