

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON “PUBLIC CHARGE” BY DECEMBER 10, 2018

ONE EASY WAY:

1. Go to <https://protectingimmigrantfamilies.org>
2. Submit your comments through their website – which is forwarded directly to the federal government at regulations.gov

KEY POINTS TO INCLUDE (IN YOUR OWN WORDS, IF POSSIBLE):

- Our lives in this country should be defined by how we contribute to our communities— not how much money we have. The new “public charge” regulation puts the wealthy ahead of families who have waited years for a green card.
- The regulation would make immigrant families afraid to seek access to healthy food, health care, and housing. This fear would extend far beyond people who may be subject to the “public charge” test. It would harm entire communities as well as the infrastructure that serves all of us.
- The regulation assumes you can accurately divide people into permanent classes of contributors and non-contributors. This is totally inconsistent with the history of immigration in our country.
- If it moves forward, the regulation will have negative ripple effects on the health, development, and economic outcomes of generations to come.

Also:

- **If you are an expert on a program**, please detail how that program improves people’s lives. For example: I oppose the proposed public charge rule that will cause millions of families to disenroll from SNAP (food stamps) programs and expose them to unsafe and unhealthy conditions (add data and examples).
- **If you work directly with immigrants**, please describe the importance of families; the importance of work and work ethic; if they use government benefits – whether it is incidental use or dependence; and what it means for the well-being of them and their children; and how they contribute to their families and community.
- **If you are a concerned individual who thinks this is wrong**, explain what you think our country’s values should be and why this change goes against it.
- **Please talk about the role access to benefits has played in your own life.** If you have family members who were immigrants, describe their experience, especially if you can point to their contributions to America.

ANOTHER WAY TO COMMENT:

1. GO TO: <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=USCIS-2010-0012-0001>
2. Click on the blue box at right that says “COMMENT NOW!”
3. Visit the comment resources at www.protectingimmigrantfamilies.org
4. Watch for Minnesota-specific impact data from Legal Aid and Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota.