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**Agency:** U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

**Document Type:** Rulemaking

**Title:** Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds

**Document ID:** USCIS-2010-0012-0001

**Comment:**

November 29, 2018

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20529

Re: DHS Docket No. USCIS-2010-0012-0001, Comments in Response to Proposed Rulemaking:  
Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds

Madam Secretary:

On behalf of SYL Foundation, I am writing to express our opposition to the proposed changes regarding public charge, governing how the use of public benefits could impact individuals' ability to enter the United States or obtain legal permanent resident status. Specifically, the administration's proposed changes would deem immigrants potentially unacceptable if they have received, or are considered likely to receive, even a modest amount of support from any number of non-cash supports including Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), housing supports (including Section 8 vouchers), and subsidies for Medicare Part D to reduce the cost of prescription drugs.

SYL Foundation's mission is to advance quality health care and education for all. The Foundation makes grants to support health and education programs in the Seattle-area, prioritizing services to immigrants, refugees, and other underserved communities. In doing this work, we stand for opportunity structures and policy systems that break down socio-economic

barriers that impede pathways to healthy productive lives.

Unfortunately, the proposed public charge rule is already having a harmful impact on community members who are disenrolling from benefits out of fear that if they receive any kind of public assistance, they will be deported from the United States. The proposed rule essentially forces people to choose between their citizenship and medical care, food, and/or shelter. It puts at great risk the health and safety of not just immigrants, but the general public, and undermines the humanitarian values of this great nation.

Immigration has always been a source of strength and vitality for the United States. Restricting pathways to residency and citizenship is not only immediately harmful to millions of people, it destroys long-term American interests and core values.

For the aforementioned reasons, this proposed rule should not be allowed to take effect. Thank you for considering the health and well-being of all those impacted by this proposed rule.

Sincerely,

Fo-Ching Lu  
President  
SYL Foundation

**Uploaded File(s):**

- SYLF Comment - Proposed Public Charge Rule.pdf

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