



HOW TO WRITE A COMMENT OPPOSING HARMFUL CHANGES TO IMMIGRATION FORMS

Everything you need to submit your own comment

opposing harmful changes to several immigration forms.

APRIL 2025

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is proposing to change several forms by adding questions about an applicants' family members, old email addresses and phone numbers and social media account information. The collection of information goes far beyond what the government needs to adjudicate these applications. The information below discusses what the changes are and how to submit a comment.

Please consider submitting a comment opposing these changes!

WHAT ARE THE CHANGES DHS WANTS TO MAKE?

DHS wants to amend certain immigration forms to collect a lot more information from applicants. The stated justification is this extra information helps vet applicants and provide more security. In actuality, the extra information is burdensome, unnecessary, and will cause a chilling effect on applicants, particularly for lowincome immigrants who may have mixed status family members.

FORMS IT AFFECTS:

N-400 (Naturalization Application), I-131 (Parole, Advance Parole Application), I-192 (Application for Advance Permission to Enter as a Nonimmigrant), I-485 (Lawful Permanent Residence Application), I-589 (Asylum Application), I-590 (Registration for Classification as Refugee), I-730 (Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition), I-751 (Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence), I-829 (Petition by Investor to Remove Conditions)

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WHERE TO FIND PROPOSED FORMS?

- There are two different collections you can respond to (and you can respond to both). The forms for each are in a Google folder below.
- Family and Contact Information
- Social Media

INFORMATION DHS IS PROPOSING TO REQUIRE ON THESE FORMS:

- An applicant's social media handles across all social media platforms
- Increased contact Information on applicant
 - ⇒ Telephone numbers for the last five years
 - ⇒ Email address for the last ten years
 - ⇒ Business telephone number for the last five years
 - ⇒ Business email addresses for the last ten year
- Increased and more Extended Family contact info
 - ⇒ US point of contact unclear what this means, especially for forms where the person is already in the US (like N-400 applicants). Instructions say it's for applicants who are outside of the United States, but no indication on the form that you don't have to fill it out if you are in the U.S. already.
 - ⇒ Parents, spouses, siblings (including half and step), children info for all, even if deceased .
 - Names
 - Telephone numbers for the last 5 years
 - DOB
 - POB

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Physical residence

HOW TO COMMENT

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- What should be in a comment
 - ⇒ Effect on you, your community, family, clients, the public, etc.
 - Will this keep eligible applicants from applying because they don't want to provide information on an application about their family?
 - Is it difficult to track down phone numbers for relatives for past 5 years?
 - Are you concerned with the government looking through social media platforms?
 - Will this present barriers for applicants to access relief that they're eligible for? Will this take more time in your representations of your clients?
 - ⇒ Other objections you might have
 - If you don't think it's necessary for the government to collect this information, say why.
 - Will collecting this information make the forms harder to fill out because the forms are so much longer and ask so may more questions?
- Website to comment There are two different collections to respond to and you can respond to both or either one.
 - ⇒ Comment deadlines must be submitted before midnight Eastern Time
 - Family and Contact Information: May 2, 2025, <u>comment here</u>, click the blue "Comment" button and follow the instructions

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- Social Media: May 5, 2025, <u>comment here</u>, click the blue "Comment" button and follow instructions
- Comments must be in English and related to the info collection
- You can comment anonymously.

Questions - reach out to Liz Taufa at the ILRC, <u>etaufa@ilrc.org</u>.

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