



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

APR - 4 2017

Rebecca Peters
Director of Government Affairs
Council for Global Immigration
1800 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Nancy Hammer
Senior Government Affairs Policy Counsel
Society for Human Resource Management
1800 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Ms. Peters and Ms. Hammer:

Thank you for your March 17, 2017 letter regarding U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) decision to suspend premium processing for H-1B visa petitions. We appreciate you bringing your organizations' concerns to our attention.

USCIS is aware of concerns about processing times for H-1B petitions and will be monitoring this workload closely during the coming months. Please note that while premium processing is temporarily unavailable, all H-1B petitioners may request expedited service if their petitions meet the criteria for expedited processing. The expedite criteria are available on the USCIS website at <https://www.uscis.gov/forms/expedite-criteria>. We encourage petitioners to submit documentary evidence to support their expedite requests.

Thank you again for your letter and your interest in this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Neufeld".

Donald W. Neufeld
Associate Director