



September 25, 2009

The FTC  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Room H-135  
Washington, D.C. 20580

Regarding: Debt Settlement

To The FTC:

I wanted to write this letter regarding the regulation that is being considered on Debt Settlement Companies and when they can charge fees. It was brought to my attention that the proposed plan will not allow these companies to charge fees until after the last service is delivered. This does not seem fair at all. How would debt settlement survive as an option for clients that want to pay back an agreed portion of their debts and avoid bankruptcy? Most of these programs can take several months or years for clients to complete and they would not be compensated for their negotiation services until then? That would stop good companies from helping people in need and severely hurt our economy even more!

Debt Settlement Companies are providing an on-going monthly service for their clients and it is only fair to be compensated for those services as they are on a rolling basis. Otherwise, what is stopping people for seeking assistance, reducing their debts, and never paying a dime once they are debt free? These companies have salaries to pay and fees they incur to operate just like any other business and should be allowed to collect those fees in reasonable and fair manner. If a potential client does not want to pay any fees until the last service is complete, that is their choice to not use this type of service and select an alternative.

I strongly oppose this regulation and feel that this would have a severe negative impact on a legitimate debt reduction option. Please register my opposition to the FTC regulation against debt settlement.

Sincerely,

Jessica Brodie