



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON 25

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MAR 31 1959

Honorable Warren Olney III, Director
Administrative Office of the
United States Courts

Dear Mr. Olney:

Your letter of March 11, 1959, requests to be advised whether, in view of our decision of June 8, 1951, B-56200, we would question action by United States district courts in requiring each applicant for admission to practice before such courts to pay an admission fee which would be used for maintenance of law libraries.

The decision of June 8, 1951, concerned similar fees and the use thereof with respect to the United States courts of appeals. While we were of the opinion that all of such fees were required to be deposited into the Treasury of the United States, we recognized that the arguments presented in support of a contrary view were not without merit and that the matter was not entirely free from doubt. Consequently, and since the practice had been brought to the attention of the Congress we stated that we would not further question such practice unless and until the Congress should take action in the matter.

There appears no appreciable difference between the question considered therein and that now presented in your letter. Accordingly, our decision of June 8, 1951, may be considered as being applicable to the admission fees levied by the United States district courts as well as those levied by the United States courts of appeals.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK H. WEITZEL

Acting Comptroller General
of the United States