

Subject: Concerns re Migration and Maritime Powers Legislation Amendment Bill 2014
Date: Thursday, 23 October 2014 3:44:37 PM

Dear Committee,

We are writing to you with our very real concern about the Amendment to this Bill.

The thought of one politician being given the powers suggested - with the courts having no power to act as the "independent umpire" is of great concern!

For refugees to be put through a 'fast track' system where they have to tell their story with no legal advice and presumably not understanding our laws - and with little or no English could not possibly be considered fair or right - and when these people are already terribly traumatised. And then no chance for review - except by the same person who made the original decision is quite bizarre.

We beg you to please not allow this Amendment to pass - our track record with refugees is already incredibly poor - please, please don't make it worse.

Yours sincerely,
Otto and Jenny Wichert