



**THE HON PETER DUTTON MP
MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION
AND BORDER PROTECTION**



Ref No: MC15-279249

Dr Dennis Jensen MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Petitions
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dennis
Dear Dr Jensen

Thank you for your letter of 24 November 2015 concerning a petition (1104/1602 and 1104/1610) recently submitted to the Standing Committee on Petitions, requesting visas for the parents of Mr Sebastian Gomes to migrate to Australia to care for his children.

While I acknowledge Mr Gomes's difficult situation and appreciate the support of the parishioners of St Kevin's Catholic Church for the Gomes family, all non-citizens must apply for and be granted a visa before they can lawfully enter and live in Australia. Unless a decision has been made by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection to refuse a visa and that decision has been reviewed by the relevant Tribunal or Court, I am unable to intervene to grant a visa.

Due to privacy legislation, the individual circumstances of the Gomes family are not able to be disclosed to third parties. However, please be assured that the petition has been forwarded to the relevant area of the Department for consideration.

Thank you for bringing this petition to my attention.

Yours sincerely

17/01/16
PETER DUTTON