

I own a restaurant and I employ what is used to be a cookery student as a cook ever since she came here to study her cookery course. She used to work 20 hours a week and now working full time since she lodged her application one year ago sponsored by her relative.

She came here with her husband and two of their children, now ages 10 and 13. They all have been here for the last 3.5 years. They have invested considerable time and money in lodging an application based on published criteria at the time they lodged the application

Since this Bill put into the senate inquiry, she has been back twice to her older child's school just to be in his side for counseling as her son is now facing a very difficult time having afraid of being ask to leave the country because his mum is a cook.

You can't act in the name of NATIONAL INTEREST at the expense of those children that have been living here for so many years, getting used to the local culture and way of life.

On the other hand, there is a lot of talk these days about queue, and queue jumpers. This amendment punishes the people like my employee who followed the rules. She and her family have stood patiently in the queue for many years. They have done what many urges – JOINED THE QUEUE MATE...!!!. It is absolutely crystal clear that this amendment proposes to give the Minister the power to make the queue disappear. It is unjust!

Give them A FAIR GO MINISTER.....!!!