



17 April 2011

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

To Whom It May Concern;

I am writing this letter to receive your assistance and express my feelings since the introduction of the new regulation in July 2010.

I graduated from the Diploma of Nursing in July 2010 from TAFE and have been rejected to register as an endorsed enrolled nurse by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) because my secondary education has not been taught and assessed by English.

Nursing is my dream job and it was not an easy process to get into study and graduate the nursing course. Being in Australia for 14 years by myself with dependent children, I simply did not have an opportunity to get into a nursing course as I was the bread earner. As my children have grown up, I could finally enter the nursing course. It was not easy to graduate the nursing course as I am from a non-English speaking background and have not studied for some time since I graduated from year 12 in Japan however; I successfully graduated after sacrificing family commitment and work and putting so much effort. Also I was offered to join the Princess Alexandra Hospital for a full time position as an endorsed enrolled nurse under a post graduate program.

Now being unable to register, I had to withdraw from the job position and pay all tuition fees of 6,500 dollars plus other expenses during the course without any hope. It is not only the expenses, I had to put so much effort into passing all the exams and the stress for one and half years and also all my nursing knowledge that I cannot use now. I cannot express how deeply depressed and loss of my confidence and self-esteem since being rejected by AHPRA.

During the nursing course, I have been taught and assessed by English at TAFE for 5 days a week for one and half years and passed all assignments and exams in English. Isn't this good enough for AHPRA to recognize people, who successfully graduated, understand English? If not, AHPRA needs to reconsider their accredited colleges. My English may never reach as good as native speakers but I always try to improve my level of English. Of course if I do not understand an instruction or a word, I will question it until I fully understand it like other English native speakers do.

Please assist me and other people who are facing a similar situation like mine. I would like to use my nursing knowledge to assist sick patients and improve their quality of life, also to contribute to our community. I would like to work as a qualified nurse to assist people who need help. Please do not take away my dream and an opportunity to contribute in society. I wish you could voice my concern to AHPRA and also AHPRA may improve and change their entry requirement.

Thank you for taking your time to read this letter.

Yours sincerely,

