

I want to say that I am opposed to the passing of the bill and I cannot believe it is even being considered. This bill allows the senator to get away with being racist and discriminative. Once the bill is approved, there is no telling what it may be used for and who it would target. I once believed that Australia was a country of fairness where racism is illegal and everyone had their rights protected. If this bill is passed, then I can say I was fooled and that this country is against bringing people here. If the government has anti-immigration rules, then all it has to do is say so. But to actually pretend that you welcome people and then treat us this way after we spent too many years here is disgusting. Chris Evans has put our applications on hold for more than 2 yrs now and all he is doing is waiting for a chance where he can get away with getting rid of us. Of course there are a lot of applications to go through now but that is because he has not touched a single one for 2 yrs at least. A stroke of a pen is not going to fix the problem unless you have no conscience at all. If your aim in life is to save money, then you work hard and save. You don't steal a bank so you can get the money. Similarly, the government has a lot of work to do to process our applications so start working on them. Passing this bill is giving the senate total control over everything he may want and God help us every time there is a change of mind. This is pure dictatorship. I refuse to believe that Australia can be capable of this. This is a commonwealth country!! Ever since I heard the announcement of the bill and I tell myself that it cannot be happening because Australia will gain nothing from and lose a lot. The world is watching and no one will even dare to come here anymore even on a working holiday visa or work visa because, at any moment, the senator can change his mind and cap certain visas. There are no limitations or restrictions mentioned in the bill. My wife has an application based on being a cook. She followed all the rules and she was asked to work as a cook for 900 hours for free. She did so and it took her a year (20 hours/week limitation). Imagine working for a year for free and then years later being told that it counts for nothing. She would finish very late in the night and be in class the next morning. Now it seems that cooks and hairdressers are targeted. This is utter slavery. The only reason thousands of us agreed to it is because we were promised our files will be processed at least. We did our part, the government should do its part now and no excuses. The economy will be deteriorating without people coming from overseas. I watched an episode of 'insight' where Chris Evans was talking about the illegal immigrants and that he believes the Labour Party is all about fairness and humanitarian behaviour. Well, let me tell you that you are not treating us fairly by keeping us waiting and then telling us we had been waiting for nothing. Saying you are being fair and behaving the opposite way is ridiculous. Actions speak louder than words. Limiting the number of applications you take is something that you are introducing. That's fine. But what does that have to do with the applications lodged before the senator even had the idea to propose such a thing. Applicants should not have to be the pawn in an election game. Do not approve of this bill and start processing applications. I would like to quote Kevin Sheedy in the program 'Q&A' that was aired last week. He said we are not growing fast enough and that we are still 22 million people. We need to get on with it and think of what this country would

have been like without the Australians who came from overseas (which is the majority of the population).

Thank you

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