

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to comment on the Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010.

When the Australia Minister of Immigration announced his views on the renovation of current GSM program in February I was full with positive expectations. Since being a working Life Scientist I prepared for the best. According to the Minister's example (scientist vs hairdresser) the new Point test should make it faster and easier for me having such a prospective occupation to get a PR and it should mean that my long time waiting will be over soon.

The announced Bill has hardly made my life better. Now I am living miserable days waiting for my application being ceased any time. What if it happens even some years later? That is even much worse. I cannot make any long term plans both career and personal. The migration turned for me (and hundreds more scientist I guess) into lottery. According to the Minister's suggestion I tried to find a job in Australia. But is anybody aware that for a postdoc from non-US and non-EU countries it is almost impossible to do it being offshore? I spent more than two years waiting and several thousands dollars to prepare for working at one of Australia's most promising branch of economy (which is science). Now it seems nobody cares about it.

My brother (IT specialist) and sister-in-law (Medical doctor) who are sponsoring our family are really shocked with the news. And that is not only because they fulheartedly want to reunite with our family and live happy next to their own brother and sister. It is obvious that family sponsored stream of immigration is inseparable of mutual help and support for new Australian immigrants. The second important issue is a physical and material aid.

Living family members close together creates an effective and functional microcommunity helpful to solve different problems. Let me give just a couple of examples. My sponsoring sister-in-law living in Australia planned to shear her children care with my wife who looks after our little daughter. After our arrival the sister-in-law could start working as medical doctor, but now she has to put her employment aside. The second example is that my sponsoring brother would be eager to renovate his old house but he physically cannot do it himself. So his family just has to wait until we come to Australia suffering for the situation.

Thus, I utterly believe that ceasing application for family sponsorship stream may cause rather negative impact on Australia's families (read economy), especially of newcomers.

I realize that not being an Australian citizen I cannot do much but many of my close relatives and friends live there. They strongly support my concerns and are ready to protect their happy lives with their families.

Yours faithfully,