

COMMITTEE SECRETARY
SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE
P O BOX 6100 PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Dear sir/madam, first of all, I thank you for not throwing this letter in the bin, J and thanks for you attention and it will certainly not take long. I am just here to express some of my personal views in regarding to the migration amendment bill 2010. I know you might have different opinions, I also know maybe we as international students will not be able to have the say, but I thought I would share my feelings with you.

I am not a very good luck person. I started my accounting study @ Latrobe University in 2004, and I should have finished my course in 2007 and therefore have my permanent visa granted before the new CSL came into effect (back then accounting used to be 75 points in the point test), unfortunately, I was suffered from eye illness in early 2005, I had to ask for a six months leave and go back overseas for the doctors. Anyway, I missed the opportunity to get my permanent residency after graduation as we then were told to apply for a visa called sub class 485, a provision visa that gives me 18 months to either improve the English or get myself into a workplace. Luckily I got myself a decent job in an Australian owned company and I was happy not just because I started earning money, more importantly, I got myself survived and proved in this country, it is a self proud and not many of my colleagues can do this. When I just had enough work

experience to apply for my permanent residency, I was then advised that only people who have 7 bands in each section of IELTS test get priority in processing (accounting). Most of my colleagues did nothing during the 18 months but studying IELTS, and they got the Permanent Residency approved whilst I worked full time for the 18 months have again been advised that no result will come out before 2012 unless I am employee sponsored, and that is ok, I can wait while working anyway till 2012. I didn't want to ask my employer to sponsor me as I am with an interstate company that has got over 1000 people and it takes long time to get everything signed off, the directors might not even know me. More importantly, I don't like depending on people.

The visa capping plan in the migration amendment bill 2010 really make me disappointed with DIMIA, I don't know which sub class will suffer from this bill, but it does matter anymore; it is just simply not fair. I am not here to jealous those who got priority in processing because of the IELTS result, my point is that the good IELTS result doesn't necessary mean good English, and it doesn't mean they will get themselves into the workforce, they are just not directly related. The result of this policy has been very obvious, people over emphasis on the IELTS but not ENGLISH. The reason why I chose to look for a job instead of keeping doing the IELTS test was that I think getting into a workforce will improve my English communicate skill, but most importantly, the life experience will never be presented in the IELTS result. To be honest, IELTS result tells you nothing about a person. I think when senate decides the new direction of the immigration

policy; they should be more looking at how much the students could contribute to this country, in terms of tax contribution, unemployment rate, business opportunity and last of all economy growth. **DIMIA could consider granting permanent visa to those who have been full time employed for at least 12 months with all the payslips, tax return prove and employment contract. By making these people permanent, they can contribute to Australia in a way of paying income tax, the unemployment rate will be decreased straight way, and as a result of that, consumer confidence will be increased because there is less burden to the society.** The English is very important I have to say, but I do mean the real English to the extent of communication in real life not just on exam paper. I agree with the purpose of employee sponsor scheme, but it is not easy for a brand new graduate student to be given a significant role in the organisation and therefore worth sponsoring from the employee point of view especially when the company is big. I am working as an assistant account, and I just feel too tiny to ask for a sponsor. And not every company wants to go through the hassle of sponsoring an employee who is not in the senior position in the organisation.

Many of students who have lodged their permanent visa application have been in this country for many years; they seem to join the culture really well already. It is going to have a great impact on their future if the visa capping gets passed in the senate no matter what group they are capping. People who have already lodged their application should be given opportunities for their visa to be approved.

We are all worrying about where our future holds. DIMIA shouldn't make these kids nowhere to go. After so many years living and studying in Australia, they have lost the most important communication chain with their home country, their major and thoughts might not be suitable for the job market out there. It will take another couple of years to build up confidence and move on.

Once again, thanks for your time and patience. I hope you are not sick of my life story. If my opinion does not suit you, it doesn't matter you have been absolutely a good listener.

Yours truly,