

Submission for Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill

Insecurity and uncertainty among international students

With this submission I am trying to envisage what the proposed amendments will deliver to the cause of better Australia.

I came to Australia as a student in 2004 along with my university mate to achieve a master degree in telecom, which I achieved with flying colours from Victoria University.

From my experience as international student I believe now a days education around the world has become more a business for individuals as well as for countries, we invest in ourselves or our children so that they can have better future by getting return for their money and effort spent. Same thing apply to international students, when they come here they pay around 3 times the fee paid by local students. They come here, work hard along with their studies so that they can have good return for their effort. How ever proposed amendments to the bill will cause international students to think 1000 times before coming to study the courses that will address the demand of skill shortage in Australia.

On average any course listed in skill shortage list put up by the immigration minister takes up to 3 years to finish. How ever with the proposed changes of capping visa classes if a student starts his study today only Minister or God will know if his/her course will be required or not in 3 years time. So this amendment will cause lots of insecurity and uncertainty among students which will encourage them not to embark upon the studies.

We know international students are not the only ones who can cater to skills shortage but in my opinion they are the real contributor to the Australian economy they come to Australia they pay for course fees, rent, and groceries. During my studies and until I got permanent residency I spent AU \$40000 in 2 years period. I believe if you study and work hard you should get enough opportunity to reap its awards by staying in Australia.

With the proposed amendment which aims to send back home thousands of overseas students, this will be a big injustice to their fortunes as they have spend significant time on studying and meeting the criteria to live and cherish their dreams in world's one of the best countries.