

Dear Committee Member

I appreciate the rationale behind the current bill being proposed, which is aimed at developing demand drive migration policy. But at the same time, this would be grossly unfair to current valid applicants who have spent/invested thousands of dollars to come to Australia and obtained the required/degrees/diploma from institutes in Australia. Some of these applicants have sold off their properties in their countries of origin to be able to fund their education and living expenses in the hope that eventually they will be able to lead a better future.

The result of this decision does not only impact the applicants but the whole family and in some cases the Governments decision could destroy these families mentally and financially. The mental trauma and the self doubt these applicants face will be enough to drive some of these over the edge and into severe depression and self harm.

Some of these applicants have been in Australia for more than 3-4 years (2 years for study and on bridging visa subsequently) These applicants have no future in their Country of Origin as the Cookery/Hair Dressing/Accounting etc courses done in Australia do not hold much value in their country of origin. The Policy Makers and the Education Industry would be aware that these courses were in demand, only which made the students eligible for applying for Permanent residency in Australia. Despite being aware of the reason for the demand for these courses the Government continued to issue new hapless victims students visa for these courses to come to Australia. Some of these students were misled by the Governments policy and the shonky Migration agents working in collaboration with Directors of substandard Colleges. Students were not at fault at any stage.

The current steps taken to stem the flow of International students to ensure better quality skilled Migrants is a very positive step but the applicants who have already lodged an application years ago and now living in Australia should be given a fair go.

Majority of the on shore applicants currently in Australia who could be impacted by the decision currently hold permanent full time Jobs and may have been in the positions for a long time. If these applicants are asked to leave at a short notice it will have a detrimental impact on the employers who will lose tax payer hard working, experienced and skilled staff. This could have major flow on affects for small firms and family businesses.

In the current economic environment where the future of small enterprises is not certain how can we expect these trained Cooks and Hair Dressers to get employer sponsorship?

So I request the committee not to allow the bill to be passed in its current state. But if it has to be then it need to be ensured that

****The Bill should not be applied retrospectively and the on-shore applicants who have applied before the introduction of the bill should not be impacted.**

I hope you take the case of on-shore applicants sympathetically. They won't mind

capping but please don't use the bill to terminate their applications.

Regards