

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my disagreement on this visa capping bill because I believe it is very unfair and is against the true meaning of human right.

I received my Australian Permanent residency in 2009, finally. I've been in Australia for about seven years, finished my high school in 2005 with a UAI of 98.5. I was planning to do architecture but I chose accounting in the end, wishing to receive priority consideration in PR application. This was a tough decision but I made it. I kept saying to myself that I like Australia; I want to live and work in this country and contribute myself to it. If the country is in short of skilled accountants, then I will be a good accountant.

I graduated in Dec 2008 with a result of average distinction and I started looking for full time job. I went to several interviews, but they all gave me the same answer: "Sorry, we need someone who has PR". If you were in my position of that time, would you think that was fair? I have good academic results, I have experiences and I am willing to work hard, but I was refused again and again for something that was not my fault at all.

I finally got my PR after all the stresses. I felt excited when they stamped my visa label on my passport, but I was also exhausted, and confused about this outcome. My boyfriend of three years is still waiting for his PR. He is hard working and we use to plan about our future in Australia. Now I am in such a fear and worry.

I remembered people used to call Australia a "Multi-cultural" country. The fact is, the whole country was formed and grew by immigrants from different backgrounds. If you are reading my letter, think about it, you are here in Australia because your parents or your grandparents made a decision to submit their immigration applications.

Australia is so charming because of its multi-culture, and because it promotes fairness to everyone. Australia is growing because of the contribution of everyone; including people who have not received citizenship or PR. I believe most people will agree that cutting immigrants is not a clever way to boost economic, or to reduce unemployment rate. The Government leader should make long term decision rather than making excuse or jumping to conclusion.

If we want this country to be better, let us do something to make it better. A visa capping bill is definitely going to drive Australia to another direction.

I spent my time in serious writing, not for myself, but for those people who share the same experiences I have; for those people who is waiting in fear, calling for fairness. I will become Australian citizen in near future, and I will be giving right to vote.

I appreciate your time in reviewing my letter.

Lillian Lin