

Re: Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010

Dear Sir,

The idea: “to ensure the General Skilled Migration program is able to deliver the broad range of skills the Australian economy will need in the medium to long-term” is brilliant, but the “bill” does have some issues.

For affecting visa applicants in the future: The time point when an application is made becomes crucial, and it determines whether an application will be successful. It's obvious that the exact time point of the submission of an application is not related to the quality of an applicant, however under the Bill, an excellent applicant who submits at a wrong time will not be accepted.

Introducing defined time point as selection criteria is only convenient in theory, and this is likely to result in huge submissions at the beginning of each financial year. It needs practical explanation that why one year is chosen to be the period by which the number of visas are determined? It could be three months, six months, two years.... The labour demand for various types of occupations has different circles. Therefore the length of period to determine the total number of visas is important, as discussed above, the “visas” for the whole period is likely to be filled up at the beginning of each time interval.

In order to "make a permanent difference so that Australia is able to choose who migrates to this country, based on whether they are going to make a contribution..." perhaps it would be better way to let the independent skill immigration programme have some characters of the employer sponsored skill immigration programme: introducing two stages into the independent skill immigration visa by limiting an approval applicant to work in the nominated occupations in the first five years, and requiring certain work experience to covert the visa to stage two: such as the current independent skill immigration visa.

Yours sincerely,

The author