

SUBMISSION

To the Senate Inquiry on Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010 [Provisions]

As an Australian citizen who is concerned about our country's interest, I would like to express my opinions about this proposed legislation which I believe to be both callous & draconian.

First of all, the retrospectivity of the Bill will affect existing applicants who lodged their applications in good faith for the needs of Australia as defined by the Government at the time of their application. Although I believe that government have good and strong justifications to enact a policy that can ensure that migrant skills meet Australian needs, but it is entirely wrong to apply today's needs retrospectively to existing applicants who would have spent considerable amounts of money (most of which would have been spent in Australian universities & colleges) to acquire the skills and qualifications necessary to meet Australia's needs as notified at that time is grossly unfair. These applicants complied with all requirements necessary for their PR applications, and lodged their applications based on official information available at the time, only to find their applications under proposed Bill to be regarded as "never been made".

As if this were not enough, applicants thus affected will be asked to leave the country within 28 days without any right of appeal!

This is a serious affront to natural justice and the Australian concept of a fair go for all.

Submitted by L J Mumford