

I do not agree and do not support the proposed amendment.

Being a lawyer does provide a basic understanding of the Migration Act and a Lawyer would be in a position to interpret the legislation and provide guidance and advise and services.

For Migration purposes, it requires specific knowledge and understanding. It has different processes. It has different expectations. Majority of time the clients do not see you face to face. It is over the internet. If lawyers do not come under the preview of MARA, it places the clients at significant risk. They can be easily bullied by lawyers who use technical language as a scare tactic. MARA is a much more competent body as they talk plain English in case of a complaint. They are much more human and clients trust the MARA.

If the lawyers are no longer under MARA, they don't need to do CPD for Migration. In past one year, there have been significant changes around SC 189, SC 190, SC 489, SC 186, SC 187, SC 457 visa's. The lawyer would not be under an obligation to keep themselves up to date. This leaves clients at significant risk.

Kind Regards

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