

17 June 2010

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Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs  
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SUB: Community Representation against Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010

The Australian-Indian community is extremely concerned about the unfair and unjustifiable decision of the Federal Government to introduce the Bill for Migration Amendments and Visa capping in the Parliament.

Some of the serious concerns of the community on the proposed legislative Amendments are as:

1. The Bill will adversely affect nearly 150,000 General Skilled Migration applicants including a large number of International students. The Federal Government seems to have totally ignored the socio- economic and psychological impact of these changes on the applicants especially International Students who mostly come from developing countries.
2. This action can have direct impact on Australia's international relationship with various countries, which have sent their kids trusting fair go policy of Australia.
3. A retrospective application of the proposed amendments to several thousands of legally lodged GSM applications is unjust and undignified.

We urge the Federal Government to continuing the processing of GSM visa applications visa that are already in the pipeline.

Pending a satisfactory resolution of the above community concerns, we urge the Federal Government to WITHHOLD THE PASSAGE OF THE BILL IN THE PARLIAMENT.

We remain confident that the Federal Government will adopt a process of community consultation and give appropriate consideration to the voice of the community on this very important issue.

Yours sincerely:

SIGNED BY: ( On behalf of Friends of International Students)