

From: Jason Preston
Sent: Wednesday, 4 July
To: Committee, Economics (REPS)
Subject: LAFH Allowance

Dear Secretariat

I write with extreme concern about the proposal to remove the LAFH for persons on a temporary 457 visa from 1st October 2012.

Having moved to Australia with my family the expense of setting up a new house was huge and involved commitments in the form of loans which were for a period of time that I was receiving LAFH under my contract. In my case the removal of LAFH will put my repayments in jeopardy and that is totally unacceptable to me as I am working very hard to drive the Australian economy forward.

In terms of business the 457 visa holder is generally a very skilled migrant who offers skills that Australians can't and this will increase the skills shortage because people are likely to leave through the cost of living and having no time to adjust.

I believe if the transitional period is given to all and not the proposed, voters only with loads of conditions rules, we may have a chance of saving business but the current proposals do not allow anyone time to act and could leave business and the economy in a woeful state.

The removal of LAFH will create a very painful business condition for Australia and will without doubt drive many skilled migrants off shore to other countries.

I hope the secretariat can take these thoughts into consideration.

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