



**Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee**

**Consideration of legislation referred  
to the Committee**

**Inquiry into the Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No.6) 2001**

September 2001

## **PROVISIONS OF THE MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 6) 2001**

1.1 The Provisions of the Bill were referred by the Senate to the Legal and Constitutional References Committee on 30 August 2001, for report and inquiry by 16 October 2001.<sup>1</sup>

1.2 The inquiry was advertised in *The Australian* of 1-2 September 2001, with submissions requested by 14 September 2001. Sixteen submissions were received and these are listed at Appendix 1. Documents which are form letters have not been registered as submissions, but as correspondence.

1.3 A public hearing was held in Canberra on 21 September 2001. Witnesses appearing at the public hearing are listed at Appendix 2. A further hearing was planned for 4 October 2001 in Sydney.

1.4 However, on 24 September 2001, the Bill was introduced into the Senate, which agreed that cognate debate on it and other Bills relating to migration could proceed in the current sittings before the Committee reported.

1.5 In the circumstances, the Committee agrees that only this formal report is necessary and that the proposed further hearing be cancelled.

**Senator Jim McKiernan**

**Chair, References Committee**

**September 2001**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **ORGANISATIONS AND PERSONS PROVIDING SUBMISSIONS TO THE COMMITTEE**

- 1 Refugee & Immigration Legal Centre Inc
- 2 Amnesty International (Queensland)
- 3 Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
- 4 Ms Helen Finch (Private Capacity)
- 5 Pat Coleman (Private Capacity)
- 6 WA Amnesty International Refugee Team
- 7 Uniting Church in Australia
- 8 Maryfields Friary
- 9 Ms Rebecca Smith (Private Capacity)
- 10 Amnesty International Australia
- 11 Dr Susan Kneebone (Private Capacity)
- 12 Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
- 13 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- 14 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
- 15 Dr Penelope Mathew (Private Capacity)
- 16 Ms Kristen Walker (Private Capacity)

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **WITNESSES WHO APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

#### **Public Hearing, Friday, 21 September 2001 (Canberra)**

##### ***Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs***

Ms Jennifer Bedlington, First Assistant Secretary, Refugee and Humanitarian Division

Mr Robert Illingworth, Assistant Secretary, Onshore Protection Branch

Mr Andrew Metcalfe, Deputy Secretary

Mr Douglas Walker, Assistant Secretary, Visa Framework Branch

##### ***United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees***

Ms Gabrielle Cullen, Senior Durable Solutions Assistant, Durable Solutions Section

Mr Jose Gonzaga, Legal Officer

Ms Ellen Hansen, External Affairs Officer

Mr Tham Meechubot, Regional Representative A.I.

##### ***Private Capacity***

Dr Penelope Mathew