

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of concerned residents and friends of the village of Metung in East Gippsland

draws to the attention of the House: to the inequitable circumstances regarding the temporary residency of _____ and _____

_____ and _____, originally from England, arrived in Australia in November 2007 and settled in Metung, East Gippsland where they purchased, successfully operated and expanded an important local business. They are hard working, financially independent, well liked and through their active community spirit have become an asset to our local community. _____'s Sister has lived in Brisbane for over forty years and now one of their children has also decided that she would like Australia to be her home and is currently undertaking a second degree at Monash University as an International Student.

They have committed to stay in Metung and are currently in the process of having a new home built.

Whilst they accept the requirements of their Visa subclass 405 in respect of the need for them to be totally self-funded and the continued necessity for full health cover, this visa gives them no permanency of residency.

We therefore ask the House to: do all in its power to grant _____ and _____ the security of permanent residency, rather than the temporary visa they are required to submit for approval every 4 years.