

Sent: Wednesday, 3 June 2009 5:58 PM
To: Economics, Committee (SEN)

Dear John Hawkins

As stated in the recent budget set down recently we were advised that Mr Rudd was going to tax the expat. I have over the past 2 weeks heard both sides of the story and to my honest calculation i don't think anyone is going to win. If this proposal was to go through i can almost guarantee the following outcome will be the result of it.

- Families will move and become non-residents and the tax man will get nothing, This will cause local businesses to loose income etc.
- Expat Australians will be forced to leave there jobs as it will no longer be viable for them to continue to travel vast distances. This will cause a huge backlog of experienced employees returning to Australia to work, the implications to that will further deteriorate the ailing workforce.
- Children of expats may not be able to go to private schooling thus putting more children into already overcrowded public class rooms as we wont be able to afford the school fees.
- If we were to be lucky enough to be able to afford to work overseas we would no doubt be seeking breaks to reduce the outlay of tax payed.

With all of these reasons and dozens more i cannot see how the labour government with all of its wisdom think that we will continue to do what we are doing and be taxed. With so many alternative options available to us the only out come to this will be a sudden loss of international currency coming into the economy, higher unemployment, local businesses shutting there doors, overcrowding of schools.

I don't think the Rudd government is looking at the big picture. If all of this was to go through and it was viable to continue to work over seas will we receive the same benefits that normal working Australians receive.

- Job security. I think not.
- Fare trade. I think not.
- Superannuation. I think not.
- Union support. I think not.
- Holiday pay. I think not.
- Control of currency. I think not
- High risk travel protection. I think not

These are the some of conditions we expats miss out on. If you were to pass this bill then we would expect the same recognition as if we were working in Australia. I implore you to seriously to reconsider and perhaps you should be encouraging expats to work outside of Australia. I think this will continue to bring in more foreign currency which will in fact improve the very country we love and live in.

I hope this letter does not fall on deaf and narrow minded ears.

Regards

Ross West