

Hi

Just to clarify my email below I would like to make the following points in my argument why I believe the bill to eliminate Tax Ruling 23AG should be blocked.

1. If the bill is passed I will be earning under the standard Australian rate for a four week on and one week off roster (not every expat is on executive rates, and I doubt my employer will renegotiate my contract rate I arranged in Aug 08)
2. The extra money I receive from the tax break is like a cherry on top for the sub standard living conditions on site (in comparison to remote mine sites in Western Australia)
3. If I were to go back to Australia to work I would receive a zone rebate for working remotely, whereas I get nothing here but yet I work in just as remote a location
4. My contract is due to expire in Sept 09, and if this bill is passed, or my employer takes no measure to compensate the increased tax, and should I be requested to extend my contract (for the fourth time), I will return to Australia to compete in the job market with hundreds of other people
5. I do not want to be unemployed, just treated fairly considering the length of time I actually get to spend in Australia

In my opinion it would be fairer to tax Australian Expats at a lower "discounted" rate, rather than the full Australian tax rate, given they are less of a burden on the services and infrastructure of this country.

Regards
Stacey Hill

Hello

I am proud to call Australia my home for the past 10 years, and am also an Australian expat in New Caledonia.

My current situation is that I work a 4 week on and 1 week off roster, which I have been doing since August 2008.

The salary is not comparable to Australian rates given the roster, but I made the choice to accept the position based on the tax benefits I would receive, and the overseas work opportunities it would create for me. Now that the tax benefits look like they will disappear and we will be dual taxed until the end of the financial year, it will not be worth my while to renew my current three month contract when it expires. That will leave me looking for FIFO work in Western Australia in an employers market. While I do have 8 years FIFO mining experience, this does not guarantee that I will be better positioned than the hundreds of other people applying for the same positions. It is not my goal to be unemployed, but I have no doubt that there will be a length of time where I will not have an income when I return to Australia.

On behalf of all Expats I would ask you to block this bill that will eliminate Tax Ruling 23AG.

Regards
Stacey Hill