

Dear Committee,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am from country [REDACTED] living in Sydney for almost 7 years now. Today I am writing with great frustration and sadness about the immigration situation that is currently happening in Australia. Because I am an Immigrant and had to go through the Immigration process and point system to get my Permanent Residency Visa, I did submit my Expression of interest in August 2019 to get one. I am still waiting for my Permanent Visa and the chances are getting very slim, not because I have inferior points in the system, in fact my points in the system are 95 (visa subclass 189) and 100 (for visa subclass 190) which is high but because of the current immigration policy and situation, I am in the limbo state.

When I came to this country, I was 18 years of old, I came here by myself, and I was young and did not have any higher education and skills. I completed my undergraduate degree in Business Administration majoring in Accounting from Sydney and worked for 14 months here as a Taxation Accountant from August 2017 to September 2018. In 2015 I got job in the Healthcare Industry and currently I am working as a **Health Administrator in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in Operating Theatres at [REDACTED]**. I have been working there as a **Frontline Health Care Worker since 2016 and I have been working with NSW Health since 2015**. You can even cross check to verify everything I am saying. I am an educated and academic professional doing my MBA in **Health Service Management and Project Management** from [REDACTED] and will be graduating in coming August. **I am even going to start my Master by Research Degree in Healthcare at the end of this year. I am enjoying working in healthcare and want to up skill and upgrade myself in this critical area.**

But my problem is I am a Frontline Health worker who has worked in intense situations when all these horrible things started. I have missed many opportunities in Health care because of my **VISA conditions**. And what makes me even sad is that I have already applied to get the Permanent Residency through the Skilled Migration Program in August 2019 with ample points with my own hard work. You can even verify that from here: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I feel very frustrated about the current immigration policy because not providing Permanent visa to one who is already living inside Australia and who is skilled and working in critical sector with high proficient English I think is stopping his and her also the country economic and job growth.

In my case I did all my study, collected all the necessary points by giving all the necessary examinations. But because I did my undergraduate degree in Accounting and have applied to get my Permanent Residency through Accounting which is the only occupations that I can use now to obtain my permanent visa, it is not in the Current Invitation List. Because of this COVID situation, the skilled list got changed and the Accountant got a significant cut in their invitation number for Permanent Visa and now there are no invitation for this occupation. The immigration department has treated Accounting as no use degree or less priority degree. However, the person who is involved in this degree always tends to mix their experience with other field such as Analytics or industry where there is high demand of the job. Not recognising the deserving and skilled migrants and not giving the Permanent Visa to those who is already inside Australia is in my view is not an appropriate step towards

growth specially when the Immigration number is in negative and the prospect of bringing new migrants is highly unlikely for some time.

Now I have been waiting for my permanent visa since last August, Yes, I did apply through Accounting Degree but now I am working in the healthcare industry for the past five years as I am working in one of the Government Hospital here in Sydney. I am a healthcare worker and will be for the rest of my life and to pursue an even higher degree than Master in this area. Unfortunately, I have lost many great healthcare job opportunities because of my visa working condition which I am studying and working towards.

I strongly believe Australia is my second home because whatever I have learned in my life, I have learned here in this country. I am working and studying here. I learned many valuable skills here; I am paying tax and have a dream to even do more work and learn more. Would you classify me as a Skilled Migrant who will contribute to the Australian economy and society or just a Migrant?

Is it worth it to the country's economy or revenue to make it harder or not to give the Permanent Visa to the guy who is already living here, have skills and studied here and wants to contribute to the economy of this country and working in the critical area now?

I am contributing to the environment and know the Australian Values. I am skilled and educated like others and just waiting to get better opportunities which I know I can get once I get the permanent visa. I surely can contribute to Australian Health Industry with my skills and knowledge and experience in significant matters. Some people can have great impact in society, others might have less however, every single ones' contribution counts and can make our country great because it is a wonderful and amazing country where we live. And I feel that every single day.

I know the uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought in our society however, not giving a permanent visa to skilled migrants **who is already onshore** and have expressed their interest to get one with high skills and education qualification is in my view is stopping the economic growth and contribution to the business.

I hope you read and make some necessary changes towards our current immigration policy. We should be practical and provide Permanent Visa to deserving migrant who is already living and working in Australia.

Warm regards,

