

Adrienn Birk

6<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee

Dear Members of Senate,

I am writing to you in regards to the Migration Amendment visa capping and how it would affect my life and thousands of others if this law came into action, which we truly believe that our Government is more open minded than to allow this to happen and can foresee the negative effect on national and international level that Australia will have to face in the future. Referring to ageing population, economy disaster, trading partners, enormous decline in international students and the poor image that it would attract worldwide.

I came here 6,5 years ago to finish my degree and after 4 years I decided to immigrate to Australia.

Name : Adrienn Birk

Current visa status: 485-885

Date of Application of PR: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Nominated occupation: Qualified Hairdresser( business)

Money spent on Australian Education during 6, 5 years: over \$75 000

Visa application and additional costs: \$12 000

Tax paid in the last 6,5 years: over \$5000

I hope that all these efforts, financial contribution all taken into consideration and are appreciated. In addition, I truly believe that those people who work actively and contribute to the growth of the country should be more advantaged/ welcomed over those who are simply lining up for Government funds and take little or no effort to work.

Moreover, I have lodged my visa in the good faith of the fairness of the Australian legal system and believed that a law that has been announced once, has power .

I have legitimately met the legal requirements for a grant and already have been waiting for the visa for 1,5 years . It is not easy to move forward in life progressively when I do not have a clear outcome on my visa status. I am planning to stay and raise a family in Australia, continuing the contribution to the country and planning to set up my own business.

As I have a clear intention on my future and already invested so much time, effort, energy and money of setting up my life here, it would have a disastrous effect by all means if these aspirations and hard work would just dissolve from one day to another.

Moreover, the effect of the economy will also be equally catastrophic as we will have a Government who intends to send a message to major trading partners in our region, whose growing economies are insulating Australians from the on-going

global economic disasters of the US and European economies, that Australia continue to afford little or no rights to their nationals but have been happy to accept their tuition fees, skills assessment fees, IELTS fees, medical fees, police check fees, migration agent fees and income taxes but will now return their \$2525 visa fee and cancel their visa application and send them home in 28 days. In 30 years from now, when Australia faces it's greatest skills shortage in history and the country will face massive competition for skilled workers from these same countries due from the US , Canada , UK and other major western economies due to declining ageing populations.

Not only is this proposed amendment grossly unfair to those visa applicants already in the system, it has the enormous ability to directly and negatively affect Australia's international reputation for years to come and this is something I also believe Australians in and outside of our industry need to be acutely aware .

Each decisions that we make in life comes with consequences especially if one chooses to deal with the future of a country and their nationals. Someone has to be accountable and take full responsibility. In this scenario, I obviously had no choice but to do my part of the work and pass my future key into the hands of the Australian Government and the Department of Immigration and trust that they will act fairly and protect my rights as we all know that it is one of Australia's main mission. I hope that it will have a positive outcome and the country can accommodate and welcome those people applied between September 2007 - December 2009 as the new selective law would then apply and as a result, the Immigration process is back on track.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail: ....or .....on the following number.

Yours sincerely,

Adrienn Birk