

I Pushpinder kaur smith, a citizen of Australia for the last 7 years, want to express my views about this visa cap amendment

I am only a common man and my understanding of 'LAW' is that Law is Law if it's in the interested of all the people i.e people in majority, people in minority, people who are there permanently or temporarily. Law is there that's why we are here. We have seen from time to time that whenever a law vests the authority in one person or a group of people law has been misused for their interest which could be temporary or personal or political or could be anything.

I strongly believe that if this bill is passed in it purposed state this harness the interest of thousands of people who just like others deserves 'a fair go'. Why i feel this way and how i feel it would happen due to following reasons:

1. if this bill is passed in its present form it would give one person i.e the minister of immigration or the a group of people to decide the future of thousands of people at their own will.

2. Whenever a law changes or amendment is done it comes into in effect from the that very day. A minister should not have an authority to change the lives of thousands of people based on the harmless action taken by them in the past.

3. A minister should never been able to use the authority vested in him to punish the innocent people for his department's failures. How and why is explained below:

a. One of the reason given by the minister for bringing bill up is the changing needs of the business. he says that it is in the interests of Australian businesses that we give permanent residence to only those people whose nominated occupation in demand today.

Fair enough, but while saying that he is forgetting that the people who are going to be affected by this law have been living in Australia for so many years(i.e people on bridging visa), have contributed to Australian economy through their fees and expenditure and have been contributing by paying taxes and working for Australia. These people whose interest is on stake are better off than those Australian resident who came here on boat or who don't have no skills to get a job and sitting on central link payments for years.

b. other reason a minister puts forward is that there are too many application made in some professions and each applicant cant be given permanent residence.

Fair enough, its true there has been too many applications made for some occupations. But why these applications could be made at 1st place? Was immi department sleeping at that time when all the were getting made? Why didn't they update themselves when they started receive high volume of applications? Why dint they take appropriate measures to stop that? For example they could change the modl list that time only. Applicants they studied certain courses because they were in a demand list being set up by immi department at that time

People they to Australia to acquire the skills to be able to be considered for being able to become Australian residents. Whats wrong in it? They came to Australia because they knew it is a land of opportunities and they did their best to grab that opportunity

There was a system present which would allow them to grab the opportunity. They simply followed the procedure which were in place. They were never told at one time that their application can be terminated without consideration even.

Immigration department failed to make sure that system was updated and caters to the needs of the businesses at that time. So they want to rectify their mistake now by asking the right to terminate the applications made at that time.

Following are some serious consequences which happen if this bill is passed in its proposed state

1. Harms the interests of the thousands of people
2. Harms the growth of education sector
3. Can risk the diplomatic relations with other countries
4. Risk the image of the nation which is famous for 'A Fair Go'

Thousands of people who came to this land of opportunities to study are skilled and devoted students who have not only studied and acquired the skills those in demand at that time. They spent not only money but their precious time of their youth to build a future for themselves. They were given a hope by the immigration department on which they built their dreams and channeled their efforts and energy to achieve their aim and goals, often experiencing problems which a growing number of listless drop outs Australian teenagers won't have any clue about.

These foreign students in order to gain work required to get their degree assessed have always been exploited by their employers as well. They work for low wages under poor working conditions just to get valuable experience required to be able to apply for permanent residence

I myself have a brother who is sailing in the same boat whose application can be terminated which was made 2 years ago without consideration even if this bill is passed. I suggested and convinced him to come here and build a career to secure a better future here. I am married to an Australian and my brother has embraced Australian culture and way of life. He regularly goes to watch footie and speaks good English and his eating habits have changed too. He is here for last 5 years now. In all these years he has put such a hard work to complete his studies and working tirelessly in the occupation in which he did the studies. He did all the hardwork and now he has started to make little things of the house like furniture, car, LCD. but one morning he gets up in the morning to find that he may be sent back home in 28 days without being given a fair go. Now he realises the pursuit he was in for all these years can end abruptly without being considered even for the aim he was working for. My brother has followed the system which was in place. He built his aim around the system in place that time and spent years of youth just to achieve his goal. He has acquired the skills and nobody should be able to take his goal away from him without giving him a chance to prove himself. He is not alone there are thousands like him. Who wants their family members go away after suffering for so many years to suffer more when they have to scratch and a family member can't help them in getting a fair go.

I strongly believe that bill should not pass in its proposed state. A minister should be given only the power to set the number of people those can be given permanent residence in one year but at no time application made in the past can be rejected without being considered. People who have applied in the past and are sitting on bridging visa are no burden to the economy instead they are a contributor. They can't raise any loan with a bank can't seek any assistance from the central bank at no time which means they are self-reliant when it comes to support but contribute to the economy by working and paying taxes.