

To the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee:

I'm a Professional Engineer in Brisbane.

I'm writing to express major concerns on the following two issues proposed by the *Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Requirements for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures) Bill 2017*:

By backdating the commencement date to 20 April 2017, the Bill not only penalises people who are already living in Australia permanently, but also those already eligible for citizenship under the current law.

I believe that proposed changes will have a drastic impact on the Australian communities, affecting many temporary and permanent residents and their Australian families, dividing Australian households and creating a scar in the multicultural fabric.

I strongly believe that the Australian citizenship is a privilege that is why thousands of migrants are doing their best by studying, working hard, paying taxes, doing volunteer jobs to be rewarded by this great honor. For those who have been working hard during their stays in Australia, well-integrated and contributing to this beautiful country on a daily basis. It is hard to believe that another 4 years of stay will make them more familiar with Australian values compared to new entrants!

Please give us a fair go and consider the effect of these changes on Australian residents, families, communities and multicultural Australia.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my submission.