

I'm writing to you in expression of the disappointment regarding the proposed The Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010 on 26th May 2010.

I understand the ground of this Bill is trying to make Australia a better country for most of its citizens to live in. With the economic crisis and increased unemployment, I understand that the government has to do something to help its people. However, I believe this is an unfair bill for most of the International students, considering the following points of view.

First of all, as we all know that Australian is a multi-cultural nation with a long history of welcoming and accepting immigrants. This bill will highly discourage the foreigners from coming to Australia to study or stay. It also hurt the reputation that Australia has been building for so many years.

Secondly, seeing from the International students point of view. Some states that International students should go back to their home country after they finish study without exceptions. Let us just state the fact. Majority of the group come from mid-class families. The parents used up all their savings to support their kids to study in Australia. There is absolutely nothing wrong for them to expect their children to have a better life and future in Australia. Their intention might be wrong from you point of view as it is not pure, but it is human nature to look for better and that is exactly how people improve their lives. Averagely, International students spend \$10,000 a year on tuition fees excluding living expenses. Most of them work part time and pay tax. We can't say they didn't contribute to this country. It is somehow unfair and inhumanity to force them to go back to their country after they have contribute their time and effort to this beloved country. Take myself for example, I graduated from UNSW in 2007 and I went back to China after I graduate. However, not before long, I realized how much I love living in Australia and I applied for a diploma of Community Welfare Work. I absolutely love this course and have my passion to work in welfare industry. Unfortunately, due to economic difficult, my college collapsed in July last year. I went through a lot of difficulties and of course depression and I came back normal because I truly believe and trust Australian government. I believe the government won't let us down and it didn't. I successfully transferred to another college and graduate from there shortly after. I applied for PR last November and I was very happy that I would have the chance to stay here. But now I'm already very depressed because this Bill can end it all. I will have to finish dreaming and being kicked out of this country.

Thirdly, as I mentioned above, due to economic crisis, there were so many colleges collapsed last year, which has created lots of depression and stress onto International students already. Lately, there are many policies have been amended with DIAC, such as the SOL list has been changed. Again it posed more stress to the students and I even heard that someone attempted suicide. I understand the government might have its own concerns, such as unemployment rates. However, the radical change might have negative effects on current applications and many of them have been waiting for a long period, even up to 2 years or more. A refund of money is easy to process but what about the time and effort that has been made so far. Is that refundable too?

Last but not least, we are not terrorists. We love Australia and we want to be a part of it.

I sincerely hope the government will consider carefully before approve this bill and its long-term effect for Australia and its immigration policy.

Yours sincerely,