

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 17 January 2022 2:23 PM  
**To:** Committee, Migration (REPS) <migration@aph.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Ending Indefinite and Arbitrary Immigration Detention Bill 2021

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To: Joint Standing Committee on Migration Parliament House Canberra ACT 2611 RE: Ending Indefinite and Arbitrary Immigration Detention Bill 2021

I thank you for the opportunity to contribute my views to the Committee about this Bill.

I believe this Bill is necessary in order to address the failures of policy and practice in immigration detention which have been occurring over the last decade, under both Coalition and Labor governments. These policies have represented a clear breach of international law and have brought actions clearly contrary to the 1951 Refugee Convention to which Australia is a signatory.

This Bill provides for systematic, just treatment of refugees and people seeking asylum while also ensuring safe, secure and efficient border management. It takes away the arbitrary nature of treatment currently in place whereby those arriving by sea are treated differently to others arriving by other means. It removes the punitive nature of the policy allowing for fair judgement between those whose refugee claims are just and those who's claims are not. It removes further trauma being cast upon people escaping from traumatic situations. Current policy is punitive and cruel in this situation where fair judgement and compassion ought be prime. By punishment of other members of the families of those detained it employs collective punishment upon innocent parties, including children.

To hold people, not guilty of any crime indefinitely with no prospect of being freed stands at absolute odds with what is at the heart of law, habeas corpus and fair and non-discriminatory punishment.

Economically the policy places an unneeded burden on the Australian tax payer.

Politically it diminishes Australia's international reputation and our voice in raising human rights concerns elsewhere.

I urge the Committee to support this Bill.

Yours sincerely,

John Queripel