

Jonathan Tucker

Personal Submission to Migration Amendment (Prohibiting Items in Immigration Detention Facilities) Bill - 2020

Dear Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee,

I oppose the proposed Legislation for the Migration Amendment Bill 2020. In this submission, I will explain why I believe it should not be passed as law.

Mobile phones allow refugees and asylum seekers to reach out to the outside world, even in only a limited way. If this was to be passed, it would give the minister unfair powers to ban such a critical point of contact for them with their loved ones and the Australian public. Asylum seekers and refugees should not be in these detention facilities, they should be released into the Australian community.

Moreso, they have the right to speak out about their situation in detention. They need to be able to talk to their loved ones and to their advocates. They permit support and networking at a time of deprivation. Mobile phones allow this sharing, this lifeline.

Please consider my words.

Regards,

Jonathan Tucker