

PETITION

Grant of Permanent Residency to New Zealand Citizens Permanently Living in Australia

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives

This petition draws to the attention of the House the (Trans- Tasman agreement of 2001) which determines the eligibility of the grant of Australian Permanent Residency to New Zealand citizens who arrived in Australia on or after 26th February 2001.

Prior to these changes in the Trans Tasman agreement New Zealand citizens who arrived in Australia would receive permanent residency and on application would be granted Australian Citizenship after two years.

It should be noted that, according to DIMIA data, only a few hundred have only applied for Australian Permanent Residency and as 30 June 2008 , an estimated 521,200 New Zealand citizens were present in Australia. www.immi.gov.au/fact-sheets/17nz.htm

It is recommended that the main criteria to be used to grant New Zealand Citizens Permanent Residency in Australia is that the main applicant should have been in full time employment for 2 years and also have a property under his/ her name

We therefore ask the Australian House of Representatives to amend the relevant legislation and grant Australian Permanent Residency to those New Zealand Citizens permanently settled in Australia.