



# Extension of time for submissions for 457 visa inquiry

Federal Parliament's Joint Migration Committee wants to hear the community's views on Australia's temporary skilled migration program, including 457 visas.

Committee Chairman, Don Randall, today announced that the Committee had extended the closing date for submissions to its inquiry into eligibility requirements and compliance arrangements for temporary business visas.

"There has been a lot of discussion about the skills shortage facing Australia and about the 457 visa in particular. We want to see if the current arrangements for temporary business visas are functioning efficiently or need to be improved," Mr Randall said.

"The Australian Government has recently announced measures to improve compliance under the temporary skilled migration program, to make sure there is a continued emphasis on training Australians and that the jobs of Australian workers are protected."

The Committee is examining the adequacy of current eligibility requirements for temporary business visas. It will also look at the effectiveness of monitoring, enforcement and reporting arrangements.

"We are seeking input from all interested organisations and individuals across Australia," Mr Randall said.

Some submissions to the inquiry have already been placed on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/457visas/subs.htm>. Further submissions will be added in the coming weeks.

Anyone interested in making a submission to the inquiry is invited to contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4560 or by email at [jscm@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscm@aph.gov.au). Public hearings will be held from March 2007.

Further details on the inquiry can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig>.

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chairman, Don Randall MP, on (02) 6277 2090 (Canberra) or (08) 9390 1211 (electorate office).

**For background information**, including the full terms of reference, please visit the inquiry website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/457visas/index.htm> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4560.