



Charles Borg

To: the Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

24th January, 2004

Submission to inquiry into Australian Expatriates

Dear Sir/Madam,

I was born in Parramatta Sydney, in Australia on the 7th October, 1953. My mother and Father migrated to Australia from Malta in 1949.

As a child I enjoyed dual citizenship: I was Australian by Birth under Australian law and Maltese by descent under Maltese law. In 1956 my family moved back to Malta.

Under Maltese citizenship law I was required to decide between Maltese and Australian citizenship between my 18th and 19th birthdays. I opted to keep Maltese citizenship in adulthood due to the fact that life in Malta for me without Maltese citizenship would have been extremely difficult. I could not work in the public service or buy property.

At the time that I renounced my Australian citizenship I felt I had no choice in the circumstances. I was very unhappy about this, because I was born in Australia and I still

consider myself to be “Australian” even if I am not legally an Australian Citizen.

Australian citizenship is my Birth right because I was born there. I still maintain close ties with Australia. I have a lot of family in Australia, aunties,uncles and many cousins.

I note that Australian law changed with effect from 1st July 2002 to allow people who renounced their Australian citizenship in order to retain another to apply to resume their Australian citizenship up to the age of 25 years.

However this provision does not assist me, because I was over the age of 25 on the 1st July 2002.

Many thanks for this opportunity to contribute to the work of your Committee in this enquiry

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chan King". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Chan King".