

The Secretariat,
Senate Legal and Secretarial Committee,
Room 81.61,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA,
ACT 2600



Dear Sir/Madam,

In support of my daughter, Frances Colley's submission to the Inquiry into Australian Expatriates, I submit the following:

Firstly I would like to congratulate the Committee in undertaking this inquiry into a hitherto neglected but very significant aspect of foreign policy. It is obvious that I have a very strong personal interest in the subject, but I hope to emphasise its national importance.

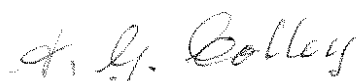
We should know the reasons why one million Australians have left the country. The great majority of these are not highly skilled and their loss is more than covered by immigration, but the loss of highly skilled individuals with local specialist knowledge is a compelling reason for the establishment of a research centre. In order to implement policy an office for Australians overseas should be established which could inform those overseas of opportunities in Australia. The main function of this office would be to establish a register of highly skilled overseas Australians. Registration should be open to those overseas or by their relatives in Australia. The office should also maintain a list of highly skilled employment opportunities. These could be matched to those in the register, notified to them, placed on a website and perhaps included in an expatriates' magazine.

With the addition of overseas experience, highly skilled Australians would be very valuable to Australia. With his high academic qualifications and overseas experience in the U.S. Britain and Germany I believe my son in law could fill many positions in Australia that he would not know of. I doubt that his is adequately paid in his U.S. job. I believe that my daughter too was of great value to Australia and should be included in the register As assistant to the manager of TAFE in South

opinion (obviously biased) may well have become principal of a TAFE branch.

To sum up, I believe that the knowledge and experience gained by overseas by highly skilled Australians is an asset that should be realised.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. G. Colley".

(A. G. Colley OAM)