

House of Representatives
Employment and Workplace Relations Committee
Parliament House
Canberra
ACT 2600

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to make a submission to the skills relocation for regional Australia inquiry.

The first issue that I want to bring up is, will there be any forced relocations? Will the relocations be voluntary? My opinion is that all relocations must be voluntary.

The second issue that I want to bring up is, ~~what~~ how will issues which are brought up during the inquiry, which cannot be dealt with the committee. Will they referred to other committees to be dealt with? Have they already been dealt with already.

The third issue that I want to bring up is, how are skills relocation for regional ~~going~~ Australia going to effect aboriginal communities. Will there be new jobs. Will it convert existing CEDP jobs into real paying jobs? What flexibility will there be.

The fourth issue that I want to bring up is, will there be will be down grading employment conditions. A system which was built around

... central wage system. Which was built over 100 years. Those rights and conditions should not be traded by simple measure to get people to move to different locations. We do not need to create a two class system of wages for one job.

The fifth issue that I want to bring up is, what happens to 457 visas by this program. Will there be more or ~~less~~ less of those visas.

The sixth issue that I want to bring up is, what skills are required. For example. plumbers, electricians, bus drivers, heavy vehicle drivers (B Doubles + Road trains.) ~~Engineers~~ Engineers, doctors, nurses, other medical support staff, Air traffic controllers. Where would this information be found.

The seventh issue that I want to bring up is, transport. Will there be more trains and buses made available to increase the area people can travel to or have people visit them. Some suggestions on about What Transport Areas should be increased, they include: 1) Melbourne to Sydney via Wollongong. leaving Melbourne at 12.00 pm. 2) Cairns to Kalgoorlie to Perth. 3) Increase the Griffin express from a weekend to a 7 days week service. Other issues connected to rail options is having more staff at stations for example Kass Junction in New South Wales, there is no staff on the week ends. There would be a need to talk to state rail authorities. To see what improvements can be made. With the increase in transport services there would also be tourism benefits more ways overseas and interstate visitors can see different parts off Australia. Other benefits of having increase transport services with an increase.

... transport services with an increase in population growth. Eventually transport services need to increase anyway. It would be easier to start earlier and than later.

The eighth issue that I want to bring up is, with people these days living longer will there be a need to increase the amount of aged care services required.

The ninth issue that I want to bring up is, will these relocations be permanent. Will they last for 3, 6, 12, or 18 months duration. Will there any relocations lasting up to 2 years. Will the people be able to move back to where they came from?

The tenth issue that I want to bring up is, will there internet access at the various parts of Australia. Will it be up to a speed which people need for there work. Would there need to any extra capacity for personal use. for example, Facebook, Myspace, twitter.

The eleventh issue that I want to bring up is, because the cost of goods and services are more expensive in regional parts of Australia. That will need to be taken into account in the government submissions to Fairwork Australia. In the next wage case.

The twelfth issue that I want to bring up is, will there be a need to increase the amount of tafe colleges in these areas. So people who have families can increase the skills. Other people can learn new skills, in particular young people coming into the workforce.

The thirteenth issue that I want to bring up is, will there be a need to increase the amount of health services in regional Australia. Will there be enough doctors and nurse and support staff? Will there be enough land available to build or reconstruct buildings? I am concerned about that last question, because in the event

- - that trees need to be chopped and down and cleared. There ~~add~~ additional concerns about, soil erosion, salinity, trees being used for carbon sinks? There would be a need to be a program that every tree that gets planted. That can be any where in Australia.

The fourteenth issue that I want to bring up is, will there be enough housing available of durable standards? Will there be a need to build new houses? How quickly will these houses get built? Will there also be a need to transport portable houses, to various parts of Australia?

The fifteenth issue that I want to bring up is, bushfire threat. In particular areas which are well known, for high fire danger areas. As well having new people coming into these areas, I am concerned of creating another problems of people not prepared for a bushfire. Especially if they came from the city.

The sixteenth issue that I want to bring up is, flood risk. If you have new people going into new areas, how well are people prepared for flooding events. Some parts of Australia can have 5 or 6 flooding events in a calendar year. In particular Northern New South Wales and Queensland.

The seventeenth issue that I want to bring up is, roads and related issues. Those related issues include, road toll, fatigue management, speed limits. Why ^{are} roads important to this issue, if you have a whole lot of people coming into a town. Are the roads suitable for a influx of people quickly. If people have to drive various distances to get to their place of employment will people problems adapting fatigue management into their routines. There would need to be a review of

... speed limits in the areas where the program is going to take place. If a regional area's speed limits were originally designed for such smaller population.

The eighteenth issue that I want to bring up is, mens sheds. Would a sustained effort to ~~return fund~~ retain funding for these organisations? Will there be a sustained effort to create new one particularly with the influx of new ~~men~~ men into the areas, which do not currently have one. Men find these organisations helpful in talking about health issues, using their skills, meeting other men, and talking about ~~health issues~~, using ~~their skills~~, meeting other their concerns about other things.

The nineteenth issue that I want to bring up is, are the regional areas big enough to have jobs for their partners or wives/husbands. Particularly if they have a skill of some sort. Has there been budget allocation for partners or wives/husbands retraining. Is there any provisions for higher unemployment benefits, to be payed?

The twentieth issue that I want to bring up is, if the people have kids will the schools be able to cope with the influx of students will there need to be more buildings to be built? will there be a need for more teachers.

The twenty-first issue that I want to bring up is, will there be enough childcare places available? will there be a need to increase the amount of childcare centres within regional areas?

The twenty-second issue that I want to bring up is, will there be a need for the regional areas to boost the libraries. Things that would need to be boosted include opening

- "hours the amount and type of books, staff, the physical space of the library itself and more equipments.

The twenty-third issue that I want to bring up is footpaths. As ~~some~~ areas of regional Australia which are not built for large numbers of people, would there be emphasis on creating areas which are people friendly.

yours sincerely

Nick Pastalatzis