

I, Dean Keating

am the promoter of this petition, which contains ~~478~~ 479 signatures

PETITION

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To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled

We the undersigned residents of Western Australia respectfully oppose the plans to introduce a \$4,000 fee for dependent children of 457 visa holders to attend public schools. These fees clearly contravene the spirit of Australia's obligation under the UN Convention. Families on 457 visas pay the same tax as Australian citizens in WA. The holders of 457 visas were aware prior to arrival they have no social welfare entitlements despite paying same taxes as citizens. Current emigrants residing in Western Australia on 457 visa arrived here in good faith in relation to public education requiring a nominal fee that existed for all school going children.

The Migration Council Australia formulated a report regarding the 457 visa being "More than temporary". Recommendation #9 is "*That the NSW and ACT governments remove all education expenses associated with the dependent children of 457 visa holders*"

Australia signed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990.

This states in Article 28: "*Children have the right to an education. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Primary education should be free. Wealthier countries should help poorer countries to achieve this.*"

Your petitioners therefore, respectfully request that you abort the plans of introducing schooling fees for dependent children of 457 visa holders. Your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

NAME

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE