

CONFERENCE OF LEADERS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES IN NSW



Member of Catholic Church Religious Group
ABN 52 476 362 010

27th October, 2008

Senator the Hon. Christopher Evans
Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
P.O. Box 1322
West Perth – WA 6872

Dear Senator Evans,

I write on behalf of the Social Justice committee within the NSW Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes. CLRI(NSW) represents approximately 3,500 Catholic religious, men and women, throughout the state, as well as many people working in organisations run by religious institutes.

I have written previously expressing our appreciation for measures already taken by your government with regard to refugees and asylum seekers. We were very pleased to learn of the abolition of the temporary protection visa, and to see many refugees we deal with getting their RoS Visas and to know that they are permanent residents able to make decisions about their future life and look to family reunion.

I would also like to advocate on behalf of those who have received a temporary 786 visa. Information that came with the abolition of the 785 stated that the 786 would be looked at in the future. Is it possible to grant permanent protection to these asylum seekers? Many have been through so much waiting for years in other countries. Personally I am in contact with many who have lived through traumatic experiences in this 'limbo' period in their lives.

Thank you for so much you have already achieved and for the different culture that is becoming evident in the whole immigration process.

Yours sincerely,

Grace Ellul sm

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

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