

To the Speaker, the Honourable Tony Smith MP, and Members of the House of Representatives

This petition from **Rural Australians for Refugees** and Certain Citizens of Australia, draws to the attention of the House, the deplorable treatment of refugees seeking asylum in Australia.

We therefore ask the House to:

1. Immediately close onshore and offshore detention centres, with people seeking asylum at offshore detention centres brought to the mainland where all asylum claims will be heard in a timely manner and with justice and compassion.
2. Amend the Migration Act to allow asylum seekers to apply for refugee protection regardless of their mode of arrival.
3. Permanently resettle in Australia people who have sought asylum in Australia, who arrived by boat without authorization, and are found to be refugees under the UN Refugee Convention.
4. Permit the right to apply for family reunion once people are recognized as refugees, with family reunions achieved in a timely manner.
5. Increase intake of refugees on the humanitarian visa to 50,000 per year
6. Exercise a duty of care to ensure that people seeking asylum are not pressured to sign documents to return to their home countries against their will when they have a genuine fear of persecution and death.

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Published by **Rural Australians for Refugees**

Email: rar.australia@gmail.com

Please return **ORIGINAL** copies of petition to:

Name: Mike Griffin, *Bellingen and Nambucca RAR*
Address: 39, Rogers Drive, Valla Beach NSW 2448

Signed ORIGINALS must be returned **NO LATER** than:

Date: **20 May, 2017**