

# Message to stakeholders on proposed changes to citizenship law: Don't miss your chance to say "NO" on citizenship bill

An online survey set up by a Parliamentary Committee gives everybody in Australia a chance to have their say on proposed legislation which would require **an eight year wait** to apply for citizenship, instead of one year. The Bill also demands **high-level English competency** for citizenship.

The [online survey](#) allows members of the public to express their view on the *Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Commitments for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures) Bill 2018*. **The survey closes at 5pm on 27 April 2018 AEST.**

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) believes that this proposed major change to citizenship law, a private member's Bill, demands the attention of all stakeholders in multicultural Australia.

**We believe that the opportunity should be taken in the [online survey](#) to say NO to the Bill.**

The great story of multicultural Australia reflects the economic success and social harmony created by Australia's migrants.

Long waiting periods for citizenship and excessively high English competence are unjust, unfair and cruel barriers to the most vulnerable new arrivals, who have so much to contribute to Australia as citizens.

FECCA urges all stakeholders to participate in this [online survey](#). Written submissions can also be sent to [Citizenshipbill@aph.gov.au](mailto:Citizenshipbill@aph.gov.au)

Please circulate this message to community members and stakeholders.

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