Dear Labor MP/Senator

Firstly, let me say how disappointed I am that Labor did not win government at the election. No doubt you are feeling this also.

I am writing to remind you of the ALP policy platform on refugees and people seeking asylum, and to encourage you and your colleagues to hold the line on a number of key issues.

I hope that Labor will stand with the advocates and work with cross benchers to vote for justice and

compassionate on these issues:

* Ensuring that people in need of complex medical treatment are quickly brought to Australia from Manus Island and Nauru.

Finding places of safety where those marooned on Manus Island and Nauru can be resettled and given reasonable futures – it is nearly 6 years for most of these people – 6 years we have taken from them, at great human and financial cost. You will be aware that the re-election of the Morrison government has plunged people into deeper despair, and there have been a number of suicide attempts.

* Releasing immediately the five children still held in locked detention on-shore in the MITA in Melbourne. The detention of children does terrible harm. These must be immediately released with their families to safe community settings. Four of these children are under five years old. We appeal to you to ensure this cruelty stops now.
* Restoring the SRSS payment to people in the Australian community– it is unconscionable that people are left destitute – regardless of their visa status.
* Expediting through and fair processing of claims to resolve the uncertainty that people face.
* Ensuring people are not deported to danger, or for inconsequential reasons.  It is encouraging to see Daniel Andrews speak out on the unfair and unnecessary proposed deportation of a family who have been settled here for 10 years. While this family did not arrive as refugees, the decision to deport demonstrates the lack of balance currently at play in the decision-making processes around deportation.

Looking forward to your support on these and other justice issues.

Regards

*[your name & address]*