Justice and Freedom for Refugees

TO THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER AND
MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of the Australian Refugee Action Network and various citizens of Australia, draws to the attention of the House that Australia's refugee deterrence regime since the early 2000s:

- has resulted in harsh and punitive treatment of people who seek asylum in Australia
- is in breach of our obligations under the UN Refugee Convention
- has resulted in people fleeing political oppression and wars in places such as Afghanistan, the Middle East, Myanmar, Sri Lanka being placed in punitive detention here in Australia
- since 2013 thousands of refugees and people seeking asylum have been held for years in humiliating conditions offshore in PNG and on the island of Nauru.

We therefore ask the Members of the House to advocate for:

- the immediate release of ALL refugees and people seeking asylum from immigration detention – their claims for asylum can be assessed while they live in the community
- end mandatory and indefinite detention of people seeking asylum and refugees
- the right to work and access to Centrelink benefits for all refugees and people seeking asylum
- fair and timely assessment of all claims for refugee status
- all refugees to be awarded permanent visas and family reunion rights
- safe resettlement options either in New Zealand, the USA, Canada, or here in Australia for all people who sought protection from Australia who are stranded on Nauru and in PNG.

SIGNATORIES

NAME (print)	SIGNATURE (sign)

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