

Hi,

I wish to make the following comment following reading the Public Consult Paper and thank you for the opportunity to express my views. I am 29 year old Irish graduated Occupational Therapist (OT). I studied OT for 4 years in Ireland and obtained a bachelor of Science in OT, having passed all my clinical and educational requirements. I speak English as an everyday language. I have worked for 7 years as an OT in wide and varied roles in Ireland and Australia and bring a wealth of experience to jobs I work in. I have worked in both private and public sector jobs in Australia. I was offered sponsorship by Victoria Largest Health care provider 4 years ago which entitled me to gain a working business visa to reside in Australia and more recently in my current job was also offered Employer sponsored permanent residency which I now have in my job as a permanent employee. I have in the last 5 years in Australia submitted what can only be considered "massive" volumes of documentation, police certs, degree cert, medicals, character references, Police checks from Ireland, Copies of position descriptions, to support all of my jobs, including police checks in Australia. I have had all of my original documents signed and approved copies of originals on Multiple occasions over the past 5 years and more recently last year when I became a permanent resident.

I support national registration and I agree that every person who claims to be qualified in the job they wish to work in, needs to be assessed as it is vital to protect the profession and the public health of the Country, but I cannot help feeling that I have been assessed, re-assessed and further assessed on multiple occasions by all HR and work providers in my jobs and in conjunction with the department of immigrations rigorous assessment screening and decision making processes. I am **still** waiting an APHRA decision on my application to work as an OT in the organisation I have been sponsored and working permanently for.

APHRA has required additional information on many aspects of my registration application. For a person who has been thoroughly assessed in each job they have worked in in Australia both private and public sectors and by immigration to meet the criteria to gain a visa and being an English speaking country, who graduation in a Europe accredited and Internationally recognised University - I cannot help but think that there should be a more flexible assessment process on some application and less on others.

I thank you for the opportunity again to express my views. In hope and anticipation that I will eventually receive my OT registration.....

Regards,

**E Rushe**