

Dear Sir \ Madam,

I am the owner \ author of **Mum's gone 2 Aus**, a website that provides essential support, advice and information for families relocating to Australia. I am a British freelance writer and relocated to Sydney in January 2010 with my husband and two children.

I created **Mum's gone 2 Aus** six months after arriving in Australia and the site and Facebook page are followed by a growing community of families planning their move, or who have moved, to Australia.

In December 2011 I published an article announcing the proposed FBT reform and LAFHA changes for overseas temporary residents to Australia. In the article I summarise my understanding of the changes based on analysis of your consultation paper and invite comment from readers affected by the proposed changes. I would like to share these comments with you and hope they will be taken into consideration when the Treasury comes to a conclusion regarding the implementation of the FBT reform.

In summary, our readers understand that the way LAFHA is currently being implemented for overseas temporary residents to Australia is not as intended. However, LAFHA has evolved to provide critical financial assistance to overseas temporary residents, particularly families, who get little else in the way of financial support from the Australian government, despite paying taxes.

If the Treasury and Australian parliament vote to implement the proposed changes, many families will be worse off and unable to stay in Australia.

Our readers highlight the fact that temporary residents do not get assistance with childcare payments and medical bills in Australia and, depending on the state \ territory they live in, they pay government school tuition fees. Typically their family expenses are higher in Australia than their country of origin; the financial assistance provided by LAFHA goes some way to compensating for this.

In the attached document I provide a list of fourteen comments from our readers as well as a little more background and useful links to the **Mum's gone 2 Aus** community.

For information, my own family are permanent residents in Australia and we feel fortunate that the proposed changes do not impact us.

We await further announcements regarding the proposed changes and hope you will fully consider the impact the reform will have on overseas families living temporarily in Australia.

Best regards,

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