



MIGRATION INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA JOINS CALLS TO SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

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The Migration Institute of Australia (MIA) has joined widespread calls across Australia to support international students and the international education sector.

“All sides of politics should be supporting genuine international students and our higher education sector. International education is Australia’s fourth largest export industry bringing in around \$50 billion to the Australian economy annually. On a more human level international students bring great vitality and skills to Australia and enrich our culture”, said Mr Peter van Vliet, CEO of the Migration Institute of Australia.

“Many studies have shown that international students are not responsible for the rental crisis in Australia as they either use purpose-built student housing or share in existing family homes. International students also assist in addressing critical labour shortages in lower skilled areas as they are allowed to work 48 hours per fortnight around their studies.

“With net overseas migration levels returning to normal levels and strengthened integrity measures in place ensuring those coming are genuine students, all sides of politics should stop demonising international students and support the wonderful contribution they make to our society and in building Australia’s regional engagement.

“Australia risks losing its competitive edge in this area if genuine students are impacted by visa charge hikes and an unwelcoming and hostile environment,” Mr van Vliet concluded.

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