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Individual Submission:

Proposal 1a: Introduction of a maximum duration for lower-skilled Essential Skills migrants

- How will a maximum duration of three years affect you and your family?

Maximum duration of three years will be quite damaging to my family as this would mean that only one out of me or my spouse will be able to stay back and work in Christchurch for that three year period provided there are no New Zealanders available for that job.

I have been in New Zealand for nearly four years by the end of next year and will be employed by same employer for this period as well. We love the jobs that we are currently in but according to immigration policies, we need to be higher ranked in order to qualify for residency. This means there is no pathway to residency for ANZSCO level 4 employments in Healthcare Industries. It is sad to be so well settled, and then be told to be taken out of the country because the wage rate has increased for the industry and now there will be residents available to do the job.

Proposal 1b: Introduction of stand down period for lower-skilled Essential Skills migrants

- How do you think that stand down period will affect you and your family?

Stand down period means to my family that we have no source of income for that period unless successful to look for another job in another country.

Proposal 2: Require the partners and dependants of lower-skilled Essential Skills visa holders to meet the requirements for a visa in their own right

- How do you think that partners and dependants having a visa in their own right affect you and your family?

It will affect our family relationship and wellbeing because I am the main applicant of essential skill visa and my husband hold our individual essential skill visa. so my husband and one month child(who born in Christchurch) may go back to India, it will be stress for me and my family.

Proposal 3: using wage or salary information to help determine skill level and access to Essential Skills migrants

- How does aligning skills to wage band affect you and your family?

Aligning skills to wage band does not have any impact to my family with the new policy as ANZSCO level 4 is not classed as skilled job regardless of the years of experience or qualification. There is no pathway to residency unfortunately.

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