

From: s 9(2)(g)(i), s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 24 May 2017 7:21 p.m.

To: nathan.guy@national.org.nz

Subject: Don't deplete our labour force even further

Dear Mr Guy,

Just a note to express concern at Government Policy to increase the limitations on foreign workers in the rural community.

It has for many years been difficult to find good reliable staff in rural areas. I speak as an employer on Dairy Farms in the North and South Island.

We have for the last couple of months been looking for a skilled, employee for our south island farm to replace our 2IC who leaves at the end of season.

As it is policy is to employ casuals, until we find somebody capable of doing the work we will likely start the new season understaffed. Despite a search so far

We have not found a replacement.

AT HOME HERE ON OUR North Island farm we have been actively looking for somebody to do some regular casual work, 10-12 hours a week. With advertisements

in local businesses in the district and word of mouth, the only phone calls I have had have been from two people looking for staff. The pool of reliable drug free staff

in rural areas is becoming dire!!! Extra regulations have added much pressure to rural life and the work load we as owners are carrying.

Risks to health and safety, become evident when we are overworked. Please don't deplete the work force even further. The pool of workers is already very shallow.

I say this as an employer who has to date, not employed foreigners. We have employed New Zealanders., but if other employers who normally employ foreigners are dipping into that pool, where do we go for staff???

Yours sincerely

s 9(2)(g)(i)

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