

Call to Action:

Migration and Security Legislation Amendment (Review of Security Assessments) Bill 2012

Dear friend,

Today I have introduced a bill to the Senate which aims to put an end to the unlawful, indefinite detention of genuine refugees in Australia.

[You can help by signing our petition calling on Minister Bowen to support the bill.](#)

For years we have been witness to an unacceptable situation where people who have been found to be genuine refugees, but have received adverse security assessments, have been locked up, given no avenue to challenge their assessment and unable to return home - a situation the High Court deemed to be illegal last week.

In a decent democracy people are given the opportunity to have their cases heard before we lock them up and throw away the key. The Government is now under more pressure than ever before to rectify the situation and restore the rule of law.

If adopted, my bill will fix the legal loophole which the recent High Court decision has condemned.

The bill is aimed at helping some 60 refugee men, women and children, including pregnant mother Ranjini and her two young boys who are in Villawood indefinitely. It will allow people to see the reasons for their adverse assessment and give them the chance to challenge their detention.

Far from weakening the system, allowing an avenue for review would serve to bolster our national security and re-affirm our commitment to fairness, the rule of law and the Australian way.

This unlawful detention has only made the trauma these refugees have suffered worse and the Government must change its ways before more children and families are damaged.

Surely, as a nation, we can do better. Click on the link below to sign our petition to call on Minister Bowen to support this crucial piece of legislation.

[Sign our petition to urge Minister Bowen to support my bill to put an end to unlawful, indefinite detention of genuine refugees in Australia](#)

Yours sincerely,

Senator Sarah Hanson-Young