



# AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION

24 Brisbane Avenue Barton ACT 2600 • PO Box 4286 Manuka ACT 2603 • Australia  
email: [aha@aha.org.au](mailto:aha@aha.org.au) • Facsimile: (02) 6273 4011 • Telephone: (02) 6273 4007  
Web: [www.aha.org.au](http://www.aha.org.au)

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## Media Release

### Robust 457 Visa Changes

Thursday 19 March, 2015

An announcement yesterday by the Assistant Minister for Immigration & Border Protection will significantly assist in restoring business and community confidence in the integrity of the 457 visa program.

The 457 visa scheme helps meet the short-term skill needs for Australian employers facing difficulties attracting local skilled labour.

A responsive temporary skilled migration system balances the capacity of the existing workforce and the skills needs of industry.

Several measures will reduce the administrative and time impost on business. These include streamlining application processes for businesses, increasing the term of sponsorship from three years to five years, and improving processing times for labour agreement applications.

AHA National CEO, Mr Stephen Ferguson said “we welcome a renewed focus on compliance and monitoring by the Government. Ensuring that visa holders and sponsors are meeting their obligations will boost business and community confidence in the 457 visa program”.

For media enquiries, please contact Stephen Ferguson on 0412 654 000.