



Senator Tim Storer
Independent Senator for South Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

Statement on Nauru

1 November 2018

I am pleased and relieved that the government is finally getting all remaining children of asylum seekers off Nauru.

However, it is not good enough that this is being done under circumstances designed to make it easier for concerned Australians to enjoy their Christmas dinner and the Boxing Day test.

These people deserve to live in a place like New Zealand where they would be welcome, have access to the health and education they deserve and a pathway to citizenship.

That is not the case with the children and their families being brought to Australia where they now live in community detention barred from permanent residency let alone citizenship.

It would not re-open the people smuggling trade otherwise the government would not be allowing them in to Australia at all.

However, that does not appear to be an option.

So, today I am announcing I am prepared to co-sponsor any measure in the Senate which would guarantee the children and their families residency in New Zealand as well requiring they all be brought to Australia for urgent medical and psychological assessment and treatment.

This would include a suitably amended version of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Regional Processing Cohort) Bill 2016.

For further information please contact Jim Middleton on 0418 627 066.