Kids Out

TO THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY

The petition of the undersigned members of the Australian Labor Party and the union movement

• Notes the inclusion of the following clause in Chapter 9 of the National Platform 2015:

248. Labor supports the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Accordingly Labor's humane and risk based immigration detention policies and practices will include a commitment to ensure that after the necessary health, identity and security checks every humanly practical effort will be taken to remove children and their families from immigration detention centres (IDCs) into alternative suitable arrangements.

- Draws attention to the 2014 report of the Australian Human Rights Commission: *The Forgotten Children* which demonstrates the detrimental effects of detention on children's Development, mental and physical health. Recommendation 2 calls for a strictly limited period of time for health, identity and security checks of children and their families.
- Notes that the Italian government completed identity, security and health checks for the majority of people seeking asylum in 2 to 3 hours with an average of 10,000 people arriving by boat per month (ABC: *The Italian Solution* 15 October 2014).
- Notes that there are 91 children in immigration detention in Australia and 68 children in Nauru as at 30 December 2015.

The petitioners urge that:

- 1. As a matter of priority the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in government puts into operation clause 248 of Chapter 9 of the National Platform 2015.
- 2. Ensures children and their families are housed under alternative suitable arrangements.
- 3. Creates a fast track process for health, identity and security checks for children and their families

and that Labor in Opposition

4. Negotiates with the Prime Minister to immediately bring the 68 children from immigration detention in Nauru to Australia to avoid the huge risk of further abuse and serious harm.

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Kids Out Petition Union members