

Thursday, 25 November 2021

**GOVERNMENT MOVE YET ANOTHER STEP IN ALLEVIATING
CHRONIC HOSPITALITY SKILLS SHORTAGE**

The head of the nation's top accommodation body, Tourism Accommodation Australia, has welcomed today's announcement of more migration policy assistance for the struggling hospitality sector.

TAA CEO Michael Johnson said 20,000 skilled visa holders would now benefit from pathways to permanent residency – with about 2000 of those working in tourism and hospitality.

“Our entire sector is crippled by the skills shortage nationwide,” Mr Johnson said.

“This latest Government decision builds on the recent success of both TAA and the Australian Hotels Association in strongly advocating for changes to visa requirements for skilled workers and Working Holiday Makers (WHM).

“Of the approximately 20,000 skilled visa holders affected by today's announcement, roughly 10% work in hospitality and tourism so it is another step forward for us.

“They say, “every little bit helps” and by allowing short-term visa holders the opportunity to stay will be music to the ears of the many hospitality employers who are in dire need in the lead-up to Christmas.”

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