

Date: August 20, 2018

Senator Fraser Anning
Senator for Queensland

Senator Anning voted against an effort by Senator Hanson to adjourn debate on other legislation so that she could try and score cheap political points regarding immigration without proper debate, saying "the immigration issue is critical to our nation and should be afforded the time and attention an issue of this magnitude deserves."

Senator Hanson had attempted to adjourn debate on another Bill to have a 35 minute debate on a bill for a plebiscite. This only proposed that the Australian people vote on reducing the immigration intake. Senator Anning had put an amendment to the bill to also allow the Australian people to choose who immigrated to Australia.

However, Senator Hanson sought to have a short debate in which only she and the major parties got to speak and Senator Anning was gagged and his amendment was not discussed.

Speaking in response to the outcome of the vote, outspoken KAP Senator Fraser Anning expressed his support for the bill however highlighted that it didn't go nearly far enough.

"Firstly this isn't just an issue of numbers, it is also about composition. Who do we want immigrating to our country?" Senator Anning continued.

"Secondly this is a nationally important issue which deserves more than the usual One Nation hatchet job."

"If Senator Hanson's Bill were to pass unmodified, we could simply see an immigration program that while reduced in size, selected only Muslims or Africans."

"My amendment sought to add an additional question to be put to the Australian people that specifically asks whether Australia's immigration policy should be changed to favour predominantly European immigration with no further immigration of Muslims."

"The plain fact is that democracy isn't racist,"

"I want to see Senator Hanson's Bill debated when sufficient time is allocated that all interested Senators can contribute and my amendment can be debated and voted on as well," Senator Anning concluded