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The Director, Skills and Innovation Policy Section
Migration Planning and Visa Policy Branch
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I would like to propose that the Business Innovation and Investment program be modified to allow recruitment of business entrepreneurs with minimal capital but with the potential to employ many more Australians.

In 2019 Jim's Group took more than 167,000 unserviced jobs, mostly in services such as fencing and gardening that could be done by unskilled people. What we lack is the business managers (Franchisees) to employ these people. The cost of a franchise, including equipment, is only around \$30,000 - far less than currently required by BIIP. If the program could be modified to allow us to recruit suitable Franchisees overseas, on condition that they employed a certain number of Australians for four years, we could provide thousands of jobs very quickly.

Jim Penman
CEO Jim's Group