

## **Dual citizenship approved**

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**By: Michael Madigan**

AN Australian can soon become an American or even a Kiwi in new citizenship laws. Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock yesterday approved laws to allow Australians belong to two countries.

Mr Ruddock said the changes would allow internationally mobile Australians to access overseas opportunities while maintaining links with Australia.

The new laws will also bring us into line with the citizenship laws of comparable countries, including the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand.

“They will ensure Australia remains one of the world leaders in the information economy -- and provide the largest transformation of internal and external government services ever,” Mr Ruddock said.

The executive director of the Internet Industry Association, Peter Coroneos, is an advocate for dual citizenship.

He said it was vitally important to leave the door open for professional Australians, who for business reasons take out overseas citizenship.

The new laws could possibly be in force early next year.