

## Agriculture and Environment Committee

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**From:** Geoff Arthur [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 25 January 2016 4:19 PM  
**To:** Agriculture and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** Fw: QRIC Bill

**From:** [Geoff Arthur](#)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 23, 2016 5:32 PM  
**To:** [aec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:aec@parliament.qld.gov.au)  
**Subject:** QRIC Bill

The CEO  
Qld. Racing,  
Brisbane.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Westbrook. QLD 4350

Dear Mr. Hall,

My wife and I have continually raced horses we've bred on our Westbrook farm over the last 25 years and have had more than 50 winners in that time. We reluctantly stuck at it during the 6 years from 2008 till 2013 during which period Provincial prize money was well below what was required for an owner to have any hope of recovering training and general costs of most horses racing at Provincial meetings over a 12 month period. At the time I carefully calculated our horses that were being trained by a leading Toowoomba trainer needed to win five and a half races at Clifford Park during the year to recover these costs. Very few horses, if any, did that. The only way to break even or better was to win at a Metropolitan Saturday meeting or win several QTIS bonuses which is a very difficult thing to do.

The significant lift in general prize money – the first in 9 years, brought in by the NLP Government in 2013, gave we owners an incentive to carry on in our lifelong business and hobby with the hope that prize money would continue to be adjusted upwards fairly regularly as costs invariably rose. However that hope will be shattered if your advertised intentions are adopted. The result will be I guarantee you we will reluctantly walk away from breeding and racing, in this State at least, as will many other owners. To race in Queensland will be like it was before 2013 – we might as well throw \$18,000 to \$20,000 into the air and let the wind blow it away for most horses we have in work for 12 months. We could never hope to recover costs even on our better horses that may win 3 or 4 Provincial races a year. With so much uncertainty about Queensland prize money going forward we didn't send any mares to stud in 2015.

For the reasons above I urge you to reverse the preposed QRIC bill with regard to Queensland prize money and leave it at present levels. I also urge to adopt a policy of increasing prize money at least ever 4 years to keep pace with to inevitably increasing industry costs,

Yours faithfully,  
Geoff and Jenny Arthur.