

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: The Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Friday, 1 April 2016 8:36:09 AM

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Gentlepeople:

The Bill just introduced to Queensland Parliament to restrengthen the state's tree clearing laws – the *Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016* – has been referred to the Agriculture and Environment Parliamentary Committee for an Inquiry. I support the reforms.

I care about land clearing for the following reasons:

- The loss of habitats and impacts on iconic threatened critters such as the koala.
- Impacts from tree clearing on the Great Barrier Reef from Great Barrier Reef catchments.
- Climate change and release of millions of tonnes CO2 from tree clearing.
- Other effects of local or other clearing you are aware of or concerned about.

I support the Bill and recommend its passing. **I think the Bill is good because it:**

1. Removes the ability to get a permit clear for so-called High Value Agriculture, and thus stop large-scale clearing of remnant woodlands.
2. Restores protections for ecologically important regrowing woodlands ('High Value Regrowth') on freehold and Aboriginal land.
3. Restores protections for trees next to riverbanks ('riparian areas') and extending provisions from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.
4. Removes the 'oops' defence of claimed mistaken clearing, and restores the *starting* presumption that a landholder is responsible for clearing that takes place on their property.
5. It makes much of the prospective legislation retrospective to 17 March, in an attempt to deter panic clearing and panic applications.

Thanking you in advance for your immediate attention in this most important matter.

Sincerely,
Carol L Collins
[REDACTED]
Dover, DE 19904
USA

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