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To:-
Research Director,
Agriculture and Environment Committee,
Parliament House,
BRISBANE 4000

Re: Inquiry into the Queensland land clearing reform Bill – *Vegetation Management (reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016*

I fully support this proposed legislation. I believe that it is important to act now to ensure that further land clearing does not impact upon already strained habitats, overall climate concerns and the world-renowned Great Barrier Reef.

Preventing the removal of remaining bushland, and protecting areas deemed to be ecologically important will I hope, ensure that some of our diminishing wildlife population may yet escape extinction. The iconic Koala immediately comes to mind of course.

The world's climate can no longer sustain the release of tonnes and tonnes of CO2 from tree clearing operations. We need to stand up and be counted among those Governments who are acting positively in many and various ways to arrest and hopefully reverse drastic climate change.

Protecting trees growing along our riverbanks is becoming vitally important to assist in the preservation of our amazing Great Barrier Reef. The recent surveys showing the severe bleaching of corals means that the Reef is under stress- still - and needs every bit of help we can possibly give it to hopefully regain health. Mind you, this has been being said for many decades now as the reef slowly deteriorates. Very sad!

Putting responsibility onto landholders for "mistaken" clearing, and making the legislation retrospective, are also both very important aspects. It is sad but true that such measures are necessary in this day and age to keep people honest.

May wisdom and a sense of responsibility for the future prevail and be seen to be active in the passing of this legislation.

Most sincerely,

Phillipa Rooke