

Submission on proposed land clearing bill from:

Peter Young

[REDACTED]

Tallai, 4213

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I support the bill.

Effective control of vegetation clearing is important for a wide range of reasons:

- Climate change is real. Plants remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and hence help to slow the rate of climate change. Removal of plants then is counterintuitive and counterproductive as we seek to meet the challenges of our changing climate.
- Vegetation provides habitat for wildlife; a much greater range of wildlife than cleared areas. Our wildlife is under pressure from historical removal of habitat. The koala, our emblem, is a particular example. Vegetation clearing needs the stricter controls provided by this legislation in order to help protect our wildlife.
- The bill seeks particularly to protect vegetation near watercourses; this is absolutely necessary not only because that vegetation is typically particularly diverse (and hence provides habitat for a wider range of animals) but also because that vegetation diminishes erosion. Erosion in the catchment areas for the Great Barrier Reef is of particular concern as the sediments are clearly linked to poor reef health. Increased pressure on The Reef (which is not only beautiful but a significant source of employment and wealth) is totally undesirable at a time when it is already showing signs of considerable stress.

I urge you to support the bill too.

All the best,

[REDACTED]