

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Land Clearing Bill submission
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[REDACTED]
Chapel Hill, Qld. 4069

14th April, 2016

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to support the Bill recently introduced to Queensland Parliament to re-strengthen the State's tree clearing laws – the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

The reasons I care about land clearing are as follows:

- The loss of habitats and impacts on iconic threatened animals 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.

I believe the Bill is good because it:

Removes the ability to get a permit clear for so-called High Value Agriculture, and thus stop large-scale clearing of remnant woodlands;

Restores protections for ecologically important regrowing woodlands ('High Value Regrowth') on freehold and Aboriginal land.

Restores protections for trees next to riverbanks ('riparian areas') and extending provisions from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.

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.

It makes much of the prospective legislation retrospective to 17 March, in an attempt to deter panic clearing and panic applications.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
Jan Massey

Jan Massey

Chapel Hill, Qld 4069
Australia

