

From: [REDACTED]
To: vminquiry
Subject: Submission Vegetation Management Amendment Bill
Date: Sunday, 17 April 2016 8:44:03 PM

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17th April 2014

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Dear Chair and Committee Members

Submission to Committee on Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

I am a veterinarian living on the Sunshine Coast and working in private practice in Brisbane. This bill is important to me because I have a strong understanding of the ecological impacts of land clearing on our native species and also the wider impact of climate change. I have also witnessed the unfortunate situation of individual animals that have lost habitat due to land clearing. The situation with habitat loss is dire and we literally cannot afford to lose any more habitat to land clearing, especially considering farmers and other land holders have operated successfully until the recent amendment under the Newman government.

I support the passing of the bill, as the long term impact of land clearing is severely

detrimental to our native species, environment and thus society. It must be considered against short-term gains made for individual or business profit. This bill is also important as it removes provisions which permit clearing applications for high value agriculture and irrigated agriculture, and reinstates a broader requirement for environmental offsets to be required for any residual impact, not just 'significant' impacts as is currently provided for in offsets legislation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Anna Sri BVSc (Hons)