


Julie Tasker


Petrie 4502

22nd April 2016

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000
Email: yminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Chair and Committee Members

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

I live in Petrie and when we built our home ten years ago would see 3 koalas a day from our property. This number has gradually decreased- to one a day, to one every two weeks and sadly now it is down to one every two months! I have picked up dead koalas off roads, stopped traffic to help them safely cross and reported sick koalas for capture and treatment at wildlife hospitals. This Bill is important to me because I treasure this iconic species- as well as all the other wildlife that we enjoy in Petrie. Australia has a shocking record of habitat destruction and species loss due to those activities- the world is watching. Don't let us lose koalas!

I also worked at a wildlife hospital for three years and saw the hundreds of koalas admitted with terrible injuries from being hit by cars, horrific damage from being attacked by dogs, and chronic illness due to stress of habitat loss. The koala population cannot survive if we don't protect their habitat NOW.

I strongly support the passing of this bill because it:

- Protects koala habitat- this is critical to preventing extinction;
- Reinstates the protection of high value regrowth on freehold and indigenous land;
- Removes provisions which permit clearing applications for high value agriculture and irrigated agriculture;
- Reinstates the application of the riverine protection permit framework to the destruction of vegetation in a watercourse, lake or spring; 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



Julie Tasker