

From: [Ken Aberdeen](#)
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: SUBMISSION in support of new Vegetation Management Laws.
Date: Wednesday, 27 April 2016 8:14:10 PM

Agriculture and Environment Committee

Parliament House

BRISBANE QLD 4000

vminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (VMROLA Bill) currently under consideration by the committee.

The changes made to this legislation by the conflicted previous government are a shameful step backward by our state.

We have no way forward as a community, but to protect what we have left of our natural systems and wildlife.

According to the Queensland Auditor General “land cleared in reef catchments increased by 229 per cent, from 31 000 ha per year in 2008–09 to 102 000 ha per year in 2013–14.” Land clearing pollutes the Reef by disturbing soil, increasing runoff and erosion.

Land clearing also damages our Great Barrier reef through increased greenhouse gas emissions (climate change and ocean acidification).

Protecting the reef was a primary platform for this government to get elected.

The reinstatement of effective land clearing laws is also a promise by the Queensland Government to UNESCO, and a major reason why UNESCO didn’t list the Great Barrier Reef as endangered last year. This Bill substantially delivers on that promise to the world to protect the Reef.

I support each of these particular changes proposed in this Bill. I support the Bill because I believe it will restore stronger controls over land clearing, and so prevent further harm to the Reef and to native wildlife.



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