

Research Director,
Agriculture and Environment Committee,
Parliament House,
Brisbane Qld 4000

Email to yminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

25th April 2016

Dear Committee,

We have been passionate about Queensland's environment and the great value of our vegetation, soil and waterways since the 1960s.

In the 1980's we started replanting local native timbers on a clapped out pineapple farm and gradually transformed it into a tree, shrub and grasses, haven for local birds, gliders, animals, insects, butterflies etc.

We are writing to support the Queensland Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

We support this Bill for the following reasons:

- It will help to protect the Barrier Reef catchments along the East coast lessening the run off sediments which harm the coral reefs and make them more vulnerable to bleaching.
- It reinstates the protection of high value regrowth areas on indigenous and freehold land – protecting regrowth is a very effective way to bring back native vegetation.
- It will reduce unnecessary tree clearing without stopping farmers from doing necessary maintenance on their land. This will also help towards meeting our carbon reduction targets and will protect the land from the increasing number of droughts.
- The Bill will also support the native species which rely on the local habitat for shelter and food.

This Bill is a necessary protection for our environment from broad scale clearing which is so quick and easy to do but which takes so much effort and time to reverse. It is NOT an attack on farmers and other country people. The onus of proof must be that landholders are responsible for clearing on their land. This was the law for years and it should be reinstated to stop irresponsible people from irresponsible clearing.

In conclusion, Please support the proposed Bill so that it is passed by Parliament as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Graham Bond and Monique Bond

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