

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Friday, 29 April 2016 8:13:44 PM

Research Director, Agriculture and Environment Committee

As a concerned citizen, I am writing to support the above-mentioned legislation to strengthen QLD's land clearing laws. I am concerned about the effects land clearing has, in terms of, loss of habitat and the threatened extinction of the koala, impacts of tree clearing on the precious Great Barrier Reef from GBR catchments, the impact on climate change and the release of CO2 from land clearing. Trees and diverse vegetative environments are critical for wildlife and humans, alike.

I believe that the passing of this land clearing reform Bill will provide the following benefits:

- 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.

We require strong legislation to help protect remaining habitats, a struggling Great Barrier Reef and to combat climate change. We owe it to our children and to future generations.

Kind regards

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