

Queensland Beekeepers' Association Inc.



Branches at:

Brisbane
Stanley River
Toowoomba
Wide Bay
Warwick

President: Robert Dewar
Secretary: Elise Whittaker
PO Box 14, Booval Qld 4304
Phone: 07 3466 3542
Email: qbainc@bigpond.com
Web: www.qbabees.org.au
ABN: 32 230 207 525

9 July 2017

aec@parliament.qld.gov.au

Committee Secretary
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

RE: Submission regarding the Nature Conservation (Special Wildlife Reserves) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

We are the industry body for beekeepers in Queensland, representing a growing interest and concern in the role honeybees play in our lives both on hobbyist and commercial levels.

The Queensland Beekeepers Association agrees with the spirit of the Bill. Bees and beekeepers rely on Native Forests to survive. Any legislation to help protect lands from mining and clearing of native forests we support. However the keeping of bees on protected land will soon be banned under the *Nature Conservation Act*.

We would ask the committee to think of bees and their importance to our health and wellbeing. If landowners apply for some of their land become a Special Wildlife Reserve we ask that the clause in the *Nature Conservation Act* banning the keeping of bees from the 31st of December 2024 not be applied to these Reserves.

As Beekeepers start trying to sell or move their family run businesses because of the clause in the *Nature Conservation Act*, those who stay and try to continue will need to have some native resources to help maintain the health of their bees.

Yours sincerely

Bryce Jensen
President
Queensland Beekeepers' Association Inc.

Robert Dewar
Vice President