

**From:** [Scoot Skate & Cycle](#)  
**To:** [Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Bat Removal Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 11 September 2012 12:13:28 PM

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To whom it may concern.

We are writing in relation to the amendment bill that is being proposed for the removal of bats in Charters Towers. We would like to let you know how these animals have effected our lives. I am married with three children, and we moved to Charters Towers in the Winter of 2009 from Townsville, to try and secure our future in this town. We were able to rid ourselves of a Mortgage, save for our children's University career and in the process, open 2 small business with in the town. In the month it took us to find and purchase a house, the town was glorious. We had heard of the bats that showed up, but saw no sign of them (we have since realised that they disappear for the winter only to return for the other 9 months of the year). We were lucky to purchase a house close to the best looking park in town, and for a bargain price, all the while our real estate agent telling us nothing of the dramas we were about to encounter (all of this now becoming apparent because we bought right in the hub of bat hell!). With in 3 months of us moving in, the bats returned. Thousands of them, and with them came the smell and the noise. The noise starts around 3 am and goes all day till they fly out around 7pm. 16 hrs of constant 50 - 70 decibel noise levels. I'm sure a workplace had noise levels that high and constant, safety gear would have to be worn by law. It would be the employers legal obligation to ensure the safety of the worker. But it seems quite allowable for the government to think that we should have to suffer through this noise for 275 days of the year. We are now left with a couple of options. We rent on the other side of town away from the flight path of the flying foxes for 9 months of the year at an approximate cost of close to \$10,000. We sell our house at a loss to just escape and buy on the other side of town at an approx cost of \$200,000. Or we wait and hope that the government will see our point of view. Every day that goes on is like a living hell. We cannot use our back yard. The continual droppings make afternoon play time with my 10 year old impossible. Both my daughters have asthma that is aggravated by the continual stench and aroma that engulfs our house. We have two dogs that bark in response to the extremely bad screeching and we have been threatened with fines if our dogs don't keep quiet. How hypocritical. I am sure that these are all things you have heard before, but you have to understand how debilitating and sacrificial this situation has become to our every day life. When we have to go into debt to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars we feel like we are a worthless piece of the country that you have just forgotten about and or don't care about. Please....we beg of you.....HELP US!!

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From Jason and Angela Reid

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