



AgForce Queensland Industrial Union of Employers

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Wednesday 12 March 2014

Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000
Via email: AREC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Research Director,

Re: Comments in relation to the *Criminal Code and Another Act (Stock) Amendment Bill 2014*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the *Criminal Code and Another Act (Stock) Amendment Bill 2014* (the Bill).

Livestock security is critically important for Queensland beef and cattle producers; and stock theft continues to be an issue with a current average of around 4000 cattle reported stolen per year and an average of around 1150 cattle being recovered or located per year.

Since 2006 AgForce has advocated for an improved regulatory framework for stock theft and retrieval that reflects a contemporary beef industry and accords appropriate power to the Stock and Rural Crime Investigation Squad (SARCIS).

The Bill in its current form reflects the findings of the Stock Working Group, an industry government initiative that prepared these recommendations for reform in 2012. AgForce Cattle is therefore pleased to endorse the Bill and proposed transitional arrangements.

AgForce supports this move as a positive outcome for Queensland beef and cattle producers; and has made multiple representations with this regards since 2012 to the Attorney General.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Anna Campbell on 0429 649 881 or campbella@agforceqld.org.au.

Yours Faithfully,

Howard Smith
AgForce Cattle President