

**QFF****QUEENSLAND FARMERS' FEDERATION****QFF MEMBERS****CANEGROWERS**

Cotton Australia

Growcom

Nursery & Garden
Industry QueenslandQld Chicken Growers
AssociationQld Dairyfarmers'
Organisation**ASSOCIATE
MEMBERS**Queensland Chicken
Meat CouncilFlower Association of
Queensland Inc.

Pork Queensland Inc.

Fitzroy Food & Fibre
AssociationPioneer Valley Water
Co-operative LimitedCentral Downs
Irrigators LimitedBurdekin River
Irrigators Area
CommitteeEmerging Primary
Industries Groups

- Australian Organic
- Queensland
Aquaculture
Industries
Federation

28 February 2014

The Research Director
Qld Parliamentary Finance and Administration Committee
fac@parliament.qld.gov.au

RECEIVED**28 FEB 2014**Finance and
Administration Committee

Dear Research Director

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**RE: Submission to the Committee Inquiry Into the Work Health and Safety and Other
Legislation Amendment Bill 2014**

Queensland Farmers Federation welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the
Parliamentary Finance and Administration Committee on the recently tabled *Work
Health and Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014*.

Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) is the peak body representing and uniting 16 of
Queensland's rural industry organizations who work on behalf of primary producers
across the state. QFF's mission is to secure a sustainable future for Queensland primary
producers within a favourable social, economic and political environment by
representing the common interests of its member organizations'. QFF's core business
centres on resource security; water resources; environment and natural resources;
industry development; economics; quarantine and trade.

Our goal is to secure a sustainable and profitable future for our members, as a core
growth sector of the economy. Our members include:

- CANEGROWERS,
- Cotton Australia,
- Growcom,
- Nursery and Garden Industry Queensland,
- Queensland Aquaculture Industries Federation,
- Queensland Chicken Growers Association,
- Queensland Dairy Farmers' Organization,
- Queensland Chicken Meat Council,
- Queensland United Egg Producers,
- Flower Association of Queensland Inc.,
- Pork Queensland Inc.,
- Biological Farmers of Australia
- Fitzroy Food and Fibre Association,
- Pioneer Valley Water Co-operative Limited,
- Central Downs Irrigators Limited, and
- Burdekin River Irrigators Area Committee

QFF provides this submission without prejudice to any additional submissions provided by our members.

Workplace Health and Safety is an issue of significance to QFF and its member organisations. While we will only make minor comments on the amendments it should be noted that QFF was involved in the consultation process for the draft exposure of the *Works Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act).

We are supportive of the proposed amendments and in particular the amendment which allows for codes of practice adopted in Queensland to be varied or revoked without requiring national consultation as required by the current WHS Act. QFF believes that the harmonised model of health and safety laws have advantages, but supports the intent of this particular amendment as it provides some scope to vary the model codes where they can be made more relevant, reduce red tape and deliver safer workplaces in Queensland. We believe that the relying on a national consensus model can in fact lead to perverse outcomes in some circumstances. QFF would encourage the government to continue reviewing the Regulations and the Codes of Practice where there is an opportunity for practical outcomes leading to a better safety culture

Should the Committee require further information we would be only too happy to assist.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Galligan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan Galligan
Chief Executive Officer