



28 February 2014

The Research Director  
Finance and Administration Committee  
Parliament House  
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28 FEB 2014

Finance and  
Administration Committee

Email: [fac@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:fac@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Work Health and Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on behalf of CANEGROWERS in relation to the above Amendment Bill.

For your information CANEGROWERS is the peak representative body for Australian sugar cane growers. Around 80% of Queensland's sugar cane growers are members. Queensland's cane growers produce around 95% of Australia's raw sugar output. CANEGROWERS represents the interests of cane growers on local and State matters and through the Australian Cane Growers Council Ltd our representation extends to Australia wide and International matters. We have been advancing and protecting the interests of cane farming families in Queensland since 1925. CANEGROWERS is a voluntary organisation providing strong leadership and effective representation for and on behalf of our members.

We refer the letter dated 14 February 2014 received from Mr Steve Davies MP, Chair, Finance and Administration Committee concerning the abovementioned Bill. In response and in general CANEGROWERS supports the content of the Bill noting the policy objectives and reasons for the changes to the legislation.

We note that the Bill provides for a technical amendment to the Electrical Safety Act 2002 to ensure consistency with the maximum penalty provisions under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011. It is understood that this has been brought about by an oversight in drafting of previous changes to the Electrical Safety Act and Regulation. Whilst we appreciate the need for consistency within the provisions of the legislation we would, however, take this opportunity to make the comment that in future changes to the penalty provisions of the legislation, that consideration be given to a better utilisation of existing penalty provisions rather than increasing the quantum of the maximum penalty.

CANEGROWERS supports the proposed changes to the Right of Entry and Notice of Entry provisions under the legislation.

CANEGROWERS supports the flexibility allowing for codes of practice adopted in Queensland to be varied or revoked without requiring national consultation as required under the current WHS Act provisions.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Stewart  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

*Ltr to Finance and Admin Ctee re WH&S and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014.docx*