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Sub # 24

From: petaf [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 17 December 2012 12:36 PM
To: Health and Community Services Committee
Subject: amendments to the Nature conservation Act 1992



Dear Sir/Madam

The proposed amendments to the Nature Conservation Act 1992 are unacceptable as I do not support private leases being authorized for ecotourism facilities in National Parks.

Many wonderful far sighted people have worked tirelessly to have special areas of important biodiversity and beauty declared as National Parks to preserve them for the benefit of future generations. They should be managed with the highest degree of integrity and not given over to private operators who want to use the special characteristics of a national park to run a business to make a profit. Profit is the number one goal, not preservation. Furthermore, as prices charged at these facilities would undoubtedly be quite high, many people currently visiting and enjoying the national park could not afford to pay, and then additionally, would find that access to that leased area was then restricted to them so that guests could enjoy the ambience that they would be paying for. This is not the spirit of National parks.

The existing situation where tourism accommodation is available just outside National Parks should be maintained. There will be a detrimental effect to the national park of building new accommodation facilities inside the park in terms of management of effluent, construction of roads, and introduction of weeds. There will also be increased competition for those already existing accommodation businesses outside the national park.

Tourism funds from National Parks could be increased by improving facilities for the main reason people visit parks, namely recreational activities such as hiking and enjoyment of the natural beauty and wildlife.

Yours sincerely,

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