From: <u>Timothy Lawrence</u>

To: Health and Community Services Committee

Cc: Anita Rose

Subject: Submission to the Nature Conservation and other legislation Bill No 2 2013

Date: Thursday, 12 September 2013 1:37:30 PM

Dear Chairman,

The proposed amendment to the Object of the Act in Section 4 completely changes the purpose of the Act and should be removed, among other proposed changes. No longer would the purpose of the Act be primarily concerned with the conservation of nature, as is presently the case, but it would be changed to have social, cultural and commercial use of protected areas as an object. While this may look harmless at face value, the object of an Act is the first port of call by a court of law when interpreting any provision of an Act.

Please do consider environmental conversation first and foremost in the changes to the act and help protect our national parks, as well as oft-forgotten fungi contained within, from any environmental devastation allowable by fast-tracking new developments or activities in natural areas.

Many thanks,

~ Timothy Lawrence