

Paul Bambrick

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13th September 2013
Health and Community Services Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000
email: hcsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

Re: proposed changes to the Nature Conservation Act 1992 via the Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No2) 2013.

As our elected Government you are the protector of our natural heritage. It is your duty to conserve national parks on behalf all Queenslanders and indeed all the world. The bio-diversity values alone are priceless but as places of recreation of the human spirit for our increasingly urbanised and disconnected population and especially youth, national parks provide vital hope and sanctuary. What other symbol of our national identity and spirit may we look to if not our natural unspoilt landscapes, unique flora and fauna? The tree kangaroo, the koala, rainforests and fragile dunal vegetation are all part of the Australian Psyche, essential to our identity in and increasingly globalised world. These wild things need *greater* protection not less! 80% of Qld vegetation has been cleared in 100 years, less than 5% remains as national park, agreed conservation areas are to be mined!

There is no economic case for this proposed amendment; commercialisation has previously failed, leaving the government to clean up the mess. This proposal jeopardises the very asset that brings millions of visitors from interstate and around the world who expect to experience our landscapes in their natural state.

Once lost the integrity of the natural systems cannot be restored for love nor money.

For the sake of our children please oppose this amendment.

Paul Bambrick