

Acting Committee Secretary
Innovation, Tourism, Development and Environment Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

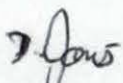
SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION [GREAT BARRIER REEF PROTECTION MEASURES AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019 [REEF PROTECTION BILL] SUBMISSION

Please accept this letter herewith opposing the proposed amendments to the aforementioned legislation based on the following [but not limited to] the issues below:-

- ✓ It has been proven that voluntary led organisations [outcome of Grazing BMP Annual Report June 2018] have substantially more impactful results regarding land care than any or all parliamentary legislation.
- ✓ Annual audits carried out to quantify supposed land degradation in areas have proven to be biased, incomplete and erroneous, for example, SLATS reporting measures the rate of land clearing in Queensland, but does mention the rate of regrowth and encroachment that is occurring.
- ✓ It is pure parliamentary speculation that land based primary production is wholly responsible for sediment and nutrient run-off into the Great Barrier Reef, there is not conclusive evidence to suggest this to be the case, except in erroneous, biased reporting [as previously mentioned] and fake news.
- ✓ For a government that likes to take a certain pride in promoting rural regional towns, the proposed amendment legislation would also further erode economic development in rural and remote towns.
- ✓ It is unfair and unreasonable to force primary producers to practice reef guardianship alone when coastal city dwellers appear to have immunity when it comes to individual responsibility and "best management practice".

Grazing BMP modules have been completed and in practice. Education and training is a constant within our farm business. Environment, ecology, biodiversity, reef guardianship, animal husbandry, among others are key principles within our operation, alongside good government legislation. Not legislation that is diametrically opposed to what we are all trying to achieve.

Sincerely,



David Jones
SOMERBY PASTORAL CO