

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Reef Protection Bill
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Rachael Strang
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Innovation, tourism development and environment committee
Parliament House, George Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000

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To whom it may concern

I wish to lodge and objection to the proposed amendments to the Reef Protection Bill. Whilst I agree that the Great Barrier Reef is one of the state's greatest assets, there are also a number of other non-tourism based enterprises which contribute to the growth of Queensland's economy, and who will be greatly affected by this Bill. If this Bill is of such great importance to the health and well-being of such a valuable asset, why then, has there been little to no public or industry consultation; and such a short amount of time allocated for submissions? Why are the public consultations being held in Brisbane, well away from the affected areas?

It seems that primary producers are easily targeted for the decline in the health of the Great Barrier Reef, but have you considered the impact of the fertilisers and pest control substances used in towns and cities? As their locales are situated much closer to the reef, I would assume the concentration of chemicals in runoff would be much higher; not to mention the tonnes of rubbish running down storm water drains. Having read many of the submissions, it is clear that most persons for the Reef Protection Bill have little knowledge of grazing or farming practices. Most graziers and farmers are conservationists. Their business would not be feasible, where they not. Many agriculturalists in the Wet Tropics and other proposed catchment areas are in fact utilising modern practices to reduce fertiliser use and runoff; and make their business a sustainable, reef friendly enterprise.

What are the proposed minimum practise standards? How were they developed and by whom? For such an important issue, there is not a lot of documentation to support the Bill, from a grazier's point of view. Why are conservation bills always against primary production? Do you oppose the industry? Who will feed you when primary producers walk off the land because they are over-regulated? I can't help but wonder if this is politically motivated to gain Green support at the upcoming election.

The earth is ever-changing, as are we. Without change, we would perish. Tutelage for both primary producers and urban dwellers is vital to the survival of the reef. More regulations are just a band aid solution. Working with primary producers will be far more profitable to the Great Barrier Reef than regulating them.

Regards,

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Rachael Strang

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