

SUBMISSION:

20TH March 2018

TO:

Committee Secretary
State Development, Natural Resources
and Agricultural Industry Development Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

As a North Queensland resident, I would like to express my concerns regarding land clearing and management in our fragile inland arid areas. I am against allowing any further broad scale clearing of bushland for the purpose of agriculture, both in Queensland and Australia wide.

The vast majority of Australians know we live on the most arid, inhabited continent on Earth. We also know deforestation in arid areas leads to desertification and once desertification reaches its tipping point it is self-perpetuating and the land eventually becomes barren, lifeless and useless.

As Earth's healthy soils are one of the biggest carbon banks on the planet we can't afford to let this depletion continue. The fact is we have to start restoring the health of the soil in existing marginal farming areas if we are to try to avert and reverse the crisis of anthropogenic climate change which is compounding every month of every year. As residents of Queensland and Australia, we have to step up to the global plate and set an example on this issue.

I therefore fully support the Queensland Government's bill to reinstate the protection of high-value regrowth vegetation and change the definition of 'high-value regrowth' to ensure that additional vegetation of significant environmental value is also protected.

Sincerely



Lesley Keegan