

SUBMISSION

I provide my submission on rejection of the changes proposed in the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 ("the Bill").

This constant change in legislation severely impacts on the ability of farm managers to plan and implement effective long-term property and business management decisions. Ecological processes work in much longer timeframes and can be severely compromised when mismatching regulations are enforced. Farmers have long called for certainty with the vegetation management regulatory framework. I am totally opposed to continued uncertainty and attacks on the viability of myself, the long-term sustainability of my business as well as attacks on fellow farmers.

The impacts of the proposed changes to the Vegetation Management Act include;

- The purpose for High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture will be removed.
- Extends Category B areas (remnant vegetation) and Category C (regrowth vegetation) to freehold land, and indigenous freehold land. Additional 862 000ha High Value Regrowth and water course buffers to all reef catchment, Burnett Mary, Fitzroy, Eastern Cape York.
- Thinning will require Development Application to be lodged for approval.
- The purpose for High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture will be removed.

Describe the impacts the changes will make to stall agriculture, discourage investment, and increase costs and time to manage vegetation.

- At a time when global demand for our great food and fibre has never been higher, these laws will shut down new agricultural development opportunities in Queensland.
- Farmers just want fair and workable laws to grow more food, create jobs and look after the environment without being strangled in red tape.
- If farmers can't feed their own families, they can't feed yours.
- Our food is too important to be caught up in politics year after year and election after election.
- We're calling on the Queensland Parliament to reject these flawed laws and work with farmers to come up with a long-lasting solution that delivers good outcomes for both agriculture and the environment.

Signed:



Address:

Date:

20 - 3 - 18