

JI & SE COOK

ABN: 28 165 990 66

22/03/2018

To The State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee,

RE: Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill

We are a young couple with 3 young children, living on a rural property in Central Queensland. As landholders who are impacted by the newly introduced Vegetation Management bill, we are writing to request that you take the time to listen to land holders.

A Dr Bill Burrows has done extensive research in to vegetation management and has quality evidence that the proposed bill has absolutely **NO** positive economic, ecological or environmental benefit. I am informed however that your committee is very well aware of this evidence & has conveniently had the findings made inaccessible.

We are responsible land managers & we value our trees as an essential part of a balanced ecosystem – Windbreaks, refuge for wildlife, shade and soil conditions. The regrowing of trees is more effective at sequestering carbon than mature trees. It would then make sense based on science alone to allow regrowth management (clearing) to continue.

Farmers are the future of this country supplying top quality Food & Fibre that the rest of the world envies. It is very hard for us to plan for our future, drought proof our property or even start succession planning if the government keeps changing the playing field. These laws affect us, our family, our livelihood & our community. If this bill is passed we are looking at years of uncertainty in our business with increased production costs, increased weed and pest infestations and most of all a **decrease** in our land value and our productivity!!

We hope to never again see the situation where using and attacking farmers is seen as a political way of winning votes!

Regards

Jeff & Sarah Cook

IF YOU
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TODAY,
THANK
A FARMER