

To:
Committee Secretary,
State Development, Natural Resources
and Agricultural Industry Development Committee,
Parliament House
22/03/2018.

From:
Sarah Campbell

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to strongly object to the proposed new Vegetation Management laws from being imposed upon agricultural land. Producers can and have already been successfully maintaining their land and in many cases for many generations. Landholders have been maintaining their land sustainably as a garden needs to be. Parks and gardens in towns and cities would soon become a rambling mess if they were not maintained.

There are more trees than ever and native animals abound because of watering points provided that would not be there if there was no producer. The environment is thriving in conjunction with agriculture.

The Government is very out of touch with rural of Queensland. These proposed laws are not practical and are to appease city-based radical green groups and so-called experts instigating these concepts for control and compliance over landholders and producers.

Once again, agriculture is being singled out as doers of evil to the environment. City dwellers are living on once highly productive land. Land is being cleared to provide roads, airports, fence lines for National Parks, more housing, etc for the increasing population, particularly in the South East. Apparently this is ok? Each area is different and each species is treated differently. A one-size fits all blanket system doesn't work.

Agriculture in Qld provides high quality food and produce for the world and is a huge contributor to the Qld economy but it can't continue if these proposed Vegetation Management laws are imposed upon us. They will be to the detriment of producers, their employees, small towns and business and eventually everyone down the line.

People on the land are not a bunch of "country bumpkins" in flannelette shirts. They are educated, hard working and very passionate about what they do producing the best quality food and produce for the world. They are families, men, women and children.

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At times it is tough on the land but the people are resilient. In recent times it has been harder to encourage the younger generation to stay and continue. More hardships forced upon the industry will not help. We need to keep our future producers keen to keep the industry alive and flourishing, not going backwards. These strict laws will also slow down production with waiting times and reams of unnecessary paperwork, time in the office and less time out on the real job at hand. If only politicians took the time to open their eyes, leave the big smoke, DRIVE around this State and SEE and LEARN. Don't be gullible by listening to made up misguided facts provided by radical green groups. Think about the damage these proposed tough laws will do to producers when next enjoying coffee, scones, jam and cream, weekend Barbeque, cheese and bikkies or salad sandwich.

Yours Sincerely,
Sarah Campbell.