

## 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.

The removal of High Value Agriculture or HVA and IHVA from the Codes will erode the ability for landholders to manage protein and fibre growth in challenging seasons and may destroy entire farming operations.

Self Assessable Codes have been shown to be an effective way for landholders to work sustainably in managing their vegetation whereas Development applications will be time consuming and costly.

If Category B and C Codes are applied to freehold land it will undermine the very purpose and incentive that Freehold Title has traditionally provided.

For any business to be viable and sustainable there must be stable legislation that allows for long term planning.

Signed:



Address:	
Date:	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018