

Reason for confidentiality:

## 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;

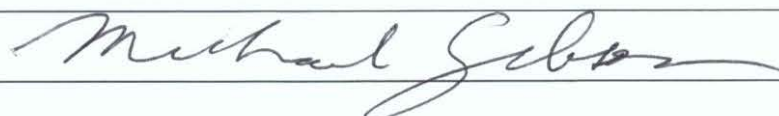
- The purpose for High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture will be removed.
- Extends Category B areas (remnant vegetation) and Category C (regrowth vegetation) to freehold land, and indigenous freehold land. Additional 862 000ha High Value Regrowth and water course buffers to all 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.

**Speaking from the cattle grazing perspective it is imperative that we are to continue clearing regrowth in order to encourage and sustain growth of nourishing natural pastures. Recently valuations have increased –why – maybe because landowners have been managing their country responsibly and increasing production hence making the properties more viable. If the landowner is hamstrung by these new laws and are forced to submit long winded applications to clear regrowth, then the trees will take over again, nourishing cattle feed will be lost and cattle numbers will be seriously reduced. The properties will no longer be able to sustain themselves and many rural properties will be seriously devalued not to mention the stress to farmers.**

**IT'S A FACT - THESE NEW LAWS WILL DESTROY RURAL INDUSTRIES. TRUST THE FARMER, PLEASE.**

Signed:



Address:		
Date:	21 March 2018	