



Representing *the best* of the plant science industry

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Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Radcliffe

RE: FOOD STANDARDS AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND AMENDMENT (FORUM ON FOOD REGULATION and OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2015

CropLife Australia (CropLife) is the peak industry organisation representing the agricultural chemical and biotechnology (plant science) sector in Australia. CropLife represents the innovators, developers, manufacturers and formulators of chemical crop protection products and agricultural biotechnologies. CropLife represents all of the licence holders for the commercial release of genetically modified (GM) crops in Australia.

CropLife **supports** the amendments proposed in this Bill, noting they are substantially administrative in nature and will improve the clarity and operation of the legislation.

CropLife **supports** Item 4 of this Bill, repealing the definitions of Gene Technology Regulator, GMO and GM product, noting it was necessary as a consequence of the amended definition of "appropriate government agency" proposed in Item 1 of the Bill. It is clear that these changes will have no material impact on the administration of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, nor the manner in which FSANZ undertakes pre-market safety assessments of GM foods and food ingredients.

CropLife is aware that some special interest groups have raised concerns that Item 4 of this Bill will lead to a reduction in the current robust regulatory system for GM foods in Australia. That position is completely and totally incorrect and without foundation, and we can only assume comes from a position of ignorance regarding the legislation and the current operations of the relevant regulators.

Please feel free to contact CropLife's Crop Biotechnology Policy Manager, Mr Osman Mewett ([REDACTED] 02 6230 6399) should you have any questions or require any further information in respect of this submission.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Cossey
Chief Executive Officer