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Professor Helene Marsh FAA, FTSE
Professor Emeritus in Environmental Science

20 February 2019

Dear Christine McDonald

I write in response to your invitation to address issues concerning the following bill that may be of relevance to me:

**The Environment Legislation Amendment (Protecting Dugongs and Turtles)
Bill 2019**

My chief concern about this bill is that it has been introduced without due consultation with the people it will affect: Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders living on the coast across northern Australia. Such changes should be developed in partnership with these people. Due consultation will take time and so I suggest that further consideration of the bill by the Senate should await the outcomes of this process.

There is no need for the Committee to consider keeping my submission, or part thereof, confidential.

Sincerely,

Helene Marsh