

Dear Committee Secretary,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Save the Koala) Bill 2021.

I am really appalled by the steep population declines among Koalas in Queensland, New South Wales and the ACT. I understand that the number of Koalas in Queensland has fallen by 50% since 2001, and by 33 % or as much as 60% in New South Wales.

The bushfires of 2019 -20 killed thousands.

A New South Wales Parliamentary Inquiry has predicted that Koalas may go extinct by as soon as 2050 if nothing is done to save them.

This is a terrible situation for a national icon and indeed for any creature that shares this planet with us.

I strongly support the Koala Protection Bill as will prevent the Minister for Environment from approving projects which could destroy habitat.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Hole