

Good Afternoon,

I would like to put forward a submission in support of the Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil) Bill 2009.

As someone with a personal interest in this bill, I support the mandatory labeling of palm oil products for the following reasons.

I believe that it is my right as a consumer to have a choice surrounding my purchasing of products, especially when the ethics surrounding the product is in question. I do not wish to contribute to the deforestation in Indonesia or Malaysia and the continued destruction of wildlife in these areas. As a consumer I believe that I should be able to make choices surrounding consumerism and my contribution towards global issues.

I fully support this bill and see it as crucial in getting passed. There are too many lives being lost as a result of Palm Oil and I do not want to contribute to this continuing problem. I find it heartbreaking that innocent lives are being lost for Palm Oil, there are alternatives, yet this product continues to be harvested and used in any number of food and consumer products.

The passing of this bill will result in the general public being given a conscientious choice as to whether they continue to purchase palm oil products, the gift of choice in this matter will be one of grave importance. It will also make campaigning in an effort to save wildlife and the environment easier and more straight forward.

I do not think there is any alternative than to pass this bill. Look into the eyes of a baby orangutan who's just lost their mother and the choice will be simple. Choice is surely the most basic form of freedom in contemporary society.

Kind Regards

Emily Harris