

167 Cornma Rd,
Stammore, 2048
7-4-2010.



Dear Senators,

I urge you all to give support to Senator Nick Xenophon's Private Members Bill, Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Label - ling - Palm Oil) Bill 2009.

This palm oil is supposedly in 40% of food products and also in shampoos and cosmetics. (No doubt unnecessary in most of these as are other ingredients).

I believe that I and all Australians love the right to know what we are eating or putting on our skin and hair.

The fact that the Palm Oil Industry is responsible for the destruction of huge areas of rainforest in Indonesia and Malaysia, at a time when many are concerned about carbon emissions and global warming, condemns the ever increasing scale of this industry. People have a right to know not only what we purchase but also what are the consequences of that food or additive to our environment, something we cannot know and access when its inclusion in a product is disguised as is currently the case with Palm Oil.

The overriding concern of mine though is for the Orangutans whose very existence depends on the rainforests. I donate monthly to the World Wildlife Fund, Humane Society International and World Society for the Protection of Animals. I am trying to protect animals on the one hand and at the same time inadvertently, I may be a party to the destruction of Orangutan habitat by unknowingly buying products with Palm Oil in it. This is outrageous. I don't want to be a party to making these beautiful creatures extinct - TO YOU!!

The situation re labelling needs fixing. I demand the right to know what is in the products I purchase - clearly and unambiguously labelled.

I will be watching to see how members of the various political parties vote on this issue. I'm a swinging voter and it will affect my next vote.

Yours Sincerely
Elliot Gilchrist.