

Norbert & Glennis Laslowski

12<sup>th</sup> April 2010

To: Community Affairs Senate Committee

**RE: Submission - Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labeling \_ Palm Oil) Bill 2009**

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On behalf of my grandchildren Jorjia Louise and Jai Gordon Menser and myself I would like to make a submission on the proposed Bill – Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labeling – Palm Oil) Bill 2009.

We strongly support mandatory labeling of Palm Oil for the following reasons –

1. Palm Oil typically costs the lives of up to 50 Orangutans each week in labeling products we will have the choice to say, “No Thank You!!!” to products that contain Palm Oil and help save these wonderful animals.
2. 90% of Orangutan habitat has already been lost – today, the most common cause of deforestation and fragmentation in Indonesia is related to palm oil development.
3. An estimated 40% of food on our supermarket shelves contains palm oil. Australians unknowingly consume 10 kilograms of palm oil each year because currently there isn't mandatory labeling.
4. Consumers should have the ability to exercise their consumer choice – without labeling consumers cannot do this.
5. Although low in trans fat, palm oil is 52% saturated fat, making it a major contributor to cardiovascular disease, according to the World Health Org. Without labeling we cannot make an informative & healthier choice for our families and ourselves.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Yours faithfully,

Glennis Laslowski

Jorjia Menser  
12 Years of age

Jai Menser  
8 years of age