

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to express my complete support for Truth in labelling- Palm Oil Bill 2009.

For the past 10 years I have worked in the zoological Industry. I have focused my energies on orang-utans and spent the past 8 years visiting Indonesia in an attempt to assist this amazing species. Additional I have worked closely with the communities that live on the edge of the rainforest and rely on this for basic means of survival.

I have witnessed first hand the magnitude of devastation Oil Palm Plantations have caused Indonesia, its people and wildlife. Recently I have begun to see climate change affect this country due to removal of its rainforests. Drought is starting to set-in and fires illegally lit for palm oil development, are not under control from the regular wet season.

I understand the need for economic development, but the rapid development of this product is causing irreplaceable damage to the country's lungs, rainforest. I do not want to contribute to the loss of Indonesia's biodiversity due to an unsustainable product that I consume without even knowing it.

**I WANT THE CHOICE.**

Each time I go to Indonesia I witness a huge mass of cleared land that is perfect for the development of palm oil. This land has already been cleared and left barren. I strongly believe that a market for Sustainable Palm oil is possible, but first we as a consumer need to create the market. Unless Palm Oil is labelled, this will never happen. Therefore as a consumer I am given no right to make a decision to purchase a product, due to the irregular and inconsistent labelling laws around palm oil. I want the choice, and to do this, palm oil needs to be clearly labelled in our products.

Additional, palm oil is linked to many health issues around heart disease. I want the choice to make a formal decision to purchase a product with palm oil in it. The only way to do this is to have it labelled as palm oil. I am therefore making a choice on my health. A choice any human should have.

At the moment I am contributing to the extinction of a species I love, a species so similar to us they have emotions, self recognition and finger prints. I urge you to vote in favour of this Bill. Give us a basic human right, the choice.

I wish to confirm that I would like the secretariat to consider my email to be a submission and made public including publishing on the web etc.

Yours Sincerely,

Jess McKelson