

## **Food standards amendments bill (Truth in Labelling-Palm Oil) bill 2009**

i support the mandatory labelling of Palm oil as i choose not to support an industry like Palm oil and i find it extremely frustrating when I'm unsure if i am buying a product that contains palm oil as it can be labelled under the generic title of vegetable oil. Consumers have a right to be properly informed about ingredients they are buying, they have a right to make a 'choice'. I have seen the enormous damage greedy palm oil companies are causing in Borneo, beside the devastating destruction of old growth forest and the obvious effects on climate, palm oil plantations are responsible for destroying local indigenous communities and threatening the survival of Orangutan, now a critically endangered species. With a 97 % identical DNA to humans, Orangutans have the intelligence equivalent to a 5 or 6 year old child. We would not allow this kind of slaughter to happen to humans, so it should not happen to orangutans. They need our voice. I am a member and volunteer helping to raise awareness and funds to the rehabilitation, protection and survival of Orangutans, correct labelling is a important step for this plight.

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