

I am emailing to show my support for the clear labeling of palm oil in food.

I hold great pride in Australia as being an honest and open country that respects the environment and ensures people are provided adequate information to make informed consumer choices.

I am sure you are aware about the problem with palm oil. For me the issue is firstly about protecting and ensuring a safe future for the orangutan. It is also about protecting rainforests and valuing the ecosystem that depends on it. Another issue is that the consumer is being lied to. We want the choice to say no to palm oil but how can we say no when it the ingredient is not clearly listed. If the reason for not changing this is because it is and environmental issue and the food act does not take environmental issues into account then the issue is that we want clear labeling. This will help if people are allergic to palm oil and should be a consumer right.

The orangutan shares 97% of the same DNA as humans and yet we are wiping them out with a complete disregard all so we can eat chocolate biscuits. The orangutans' rainforest is being cleared for Palm Oil plantations and other crops at an overwhelming rate, with the remaining forest being degraded by drought and forest fires.

Orangutans depend on this ecosystem for survival. If logging is not stopped, extinction in the wild is likely in the next 10 years for Sumatran Orangutans and soon after for Bornean Orangutans.

I would be so proud of Australia if we took a stance against palm oil and said yes to protecting their survival. They are seen as pests on the palm oil plantations and often beaten and abused all so companies can keep up with the demand for palm oil. Mother orangutans are often shots and the babies are left to perish. This treatment is disgusting and our country is allowing it.

I have attached some information that I hope will help your decision. Please note this issue is not going away if this bill does not get passed we have strong support that will keep pushing until it does.

Time is fast running out for our jungle cousins. I am a consumer, tax payer, property and business owner and also a voter. The reason I voted Labour was because they have a strong environmental commitment so please do not let me down. I will support any government that supports this cause. We need to take a strong stance and say NO to palm oil and YES to clear labeling.

I am willing to give evidence to support this bill.

Kind regards,

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**Director**

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