

## **SUBMISSION OF SUPPORT FOR**

### **FOOD STANDARDS AMENDMENT (TRUTH IN LABELING – PALM OIL) BILL 2009**

**I support the mandatory labeling of Palm Oil for a few reasons. I believe it is my right to know what is in the products that I am choosing in the supermarkets, deli's etc so that I can make an informed decision when purchasing items. Palm oil is high in saturated fat and low in polyunsaturated fat and according to the Heart Foundation, biomedical research indicates that the consumption of palm oil increases the risk of heart disease. For health reasons I want to know what products include Palm Oil. I am outraged that the majority of the Palm Oil industry is involved in massive deforestation to make available land for planting the Palms for the oil and they do this with no regard for the endangered wildlife, Orang-utans and Tigers. It makes me sad and angry that human beings and businesses will still put money before treating animals humanely and with respect as our neighbours on this planet. I want to do what I can to help to keep these wonderful animals in their natural habitat, where they belong. It will be a very sorry day should it ever come when these animals only survive in zoos behind panes of glass. They have the right to live freely on their land as we do, just another creature on this earth. My third reason for support of this bill is with regard to the contribution this deforestation has on climate change. I believe that some companies are producing certified sustainable palm oil by planting palms on already cleared land instead of cutting down forests. I want to be able to choose to purchase products with certified sustainable palm oil, when I need to purchase products which do have palm oil in them. At the moment I am not able to do this as I have no idea which products include palm oil, let alone whether it is certified sustainable.**

**I am interested in this issue because I want to be able to make a difference and help to stop the deforestation of this land and home to these animals.**