

Senator McEwen, Chair  
Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts.

Dear Senator McEwen,

Please accept this submission to the inquiry into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008.

My name is Michael Chapman and I am a recreational fisher and I am concerned about some of the proposed amendments to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975.

In particular the amendment 9 subsection 3(1) which endeavours to move the definition of fishing into the offences and civil penalties section of the Act.

I find this very disturbing, that a person could have a criminal charge brought against them for the 'intent of fishing'.

Do not change this Act.

If anything has to be changed, let it be the clarification of the definition of fishing. This should be re-worded to the 'activity of taking fish' and not the 'intention to take fish'.

Thankyou.

Michael Chapman