



The Hon Mark Furner MP  
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries  
and Minister for Rural Communities

Our ref: CTS 13212/21

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15 JUL 2021

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Services  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil", written over the name "Mr Laurie".

Thank you for your letter of 17 June 2021 regarding a petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No. 3502-21.

When the Biosecurity Bill 2013 was being prepared, there was little evidence available to support the inclusion of Amazon frogbit (*Limnobium laevigatum*) in the list of plants which were not to be traded in Queensland or released into the environment.

However, given the New South Wales Government banned the sale of Amazon frogbit in 2015; and that the Northern Territory Government banned its introduction in 2018, it is timely that the Queensland Government reconsider the consequences of continued trade of this plant in Queensland.

I have asked that Biosecurity Queensland, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, reassess the biosecurity risks posed by this and other water weeds and to consult with the potentially impacted industry groups including the aquarium industry.

If you require further information, please contact my office on 07 3719 7420.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Furner".

**MARK FURNER MP**  
**Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and**  
**Minister for Rural Communities**