[name of elected official]

[elected official title]

[address]

March 15, 2021

[date]

Dear [name of elected official],

**Re: Bill 4, Biodiversity Act**

I am‎ writing to you as a concerned landowner, over the proposed Biodiversity Act, Bill 4 that has recently had First and Second readings in the provincial legislature.

I (or our company) has/have (x amount of acres of land-woodland, blueberries, farmland, orchard, Christmas trees...) in (state county of the province). The land was acquired… (handed down through generations, strategic investment...).   The land has (state what service/qualities the land offers the individual or business.)

The proposed Act offers the Minister broad power to enforce and penalize landowners for activities on their own land. With more than 70 per cent of the total land in Nova Scotia privately owned, it's deeply disappointing that government did not adequately consult private landowners during the development of this Bill, seeing the measure directly impacts how our lands can be used and enjoyed.

I would ask that government halt the passage of this Bill in the house and re-engage private landowners in the crafting of any legislation that impacts them.  With the swift introduction of Bill 4 in the legislature, many landowners have not had time to review the proposed Act in its entirety to offer productive feedback or amendments that may strengthen its intent.

Nova Scotians in every part of the province believe our natural resources should be managed sustainability, but we need to trust in government to work with business and citizens to achieve this in a fair and balanced way.

Best regards,

(Signature)

Name