

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 5:24 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Firearms changes

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding the proposed changes to Australia's firearms laws. As a law-abiding firearms owner, I have serious concerns about these proposed reforms. I believe they unfairly target responsible firearms owners, who are not the source of the problem.

Firearms have been a normal part of my life since childhood. They were part of my family's way of life. My grandfather was both an antique dealer and a gunsmith, and some of my fondest memories are of spending weekends at the shooting range with him, shooting clay targets alongside doctors, lawyers, nurses, farmers, tradespeople, and families who taught their children to respect firearms from a young age.

Growing up around firearms meant learning responsibility, discipline, and safety. I watched my grandfather restore and repair firearms, spent countless weekends at the range, and joined family hunting trips that helped put food on our table. For me, this wasn't unusual—it was simply everyday life.

In Tasmania, obtaining a firearms licence is already a rigorous process. Applicants must be deemed fit and proper persons, undergo police background checks, complete accredited firearms safety training, and comply with strict storage and licensing requirements. These measures already ensure that lawful firearms owners are responsible members of the community.

The proposed changes will not prevent criminals from illegally obtaining or using firearms. Criminals, by definition, do not follow firearms laws. Instead, these changes will place further restrictions on people who have done everything required of them under the law.

I am also concerned about the financial cost of another firearms buyback scheme. Such a program would cost Australian taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars while doing little to address the criminal misuse of illegally obtained firearms.

Lawful firearms owners are not the people committing armed robberies or violent crimes. They are hardworking Australians who enjoy target shooting, hunting, collecting, or rely on firearms for farming and pest control. For many of us, shooting is more than a hobby—it's a tradition, a sport, a way of providing food for our families, and an important part of our lifestyle.

The proposal to reclassify additional firearms into higher licence categories will only make it more difficult for responsible people to continue participating in activities they have lawfully enjoyed for many years. I ask: do you genuinely believe these changes will stop organised criminals or those who obtain firearms illegally?

To put this into perspective, if someone drives while intoxicated and causes a fatal accident, we do not punish every licensed driver or make it significantly harder for law-abiding Australians to own a car. We hold the individual offender accountable. Why should responsible firearms owners be treated differently because of the actions of criminals?

There is also a widespread misconception that firearms owners are reckless or uneducated. In my experience, the opposite is true. The overwhelming majority of firearms owners are responsible, safety-conscious, and law-abiding people. Unfortunately, a small minority receives extensive media attention, creating an unfair stereotype that does not reflect the broader firearms community.

The tragic incidents that have prompted these proposed reforms should never have happened. However, where individuals were already known to authorities, had been radicalised, or were on police watch lists, those failures point to shortcomings in intelligence, law enforcement, or intervention—not failures by responsible firearms owners who complied with every legal requirement placed upon them.

In conclusion, I ask you to carefully consider who these proposed laws are actually affecting. They will not stop criminals from breaking the law. Instead, they will impose further restrictions on responsible Australians who already comply with strict licensing requirements.

As someone who has grown up around firearms, I know firsthand the importance of education, safety, and responsibility. I ask that the Government focus on stronger action against illegal firearms trafficking, organised crime, and individuals who pose genuine risks, rather than introducing measures that further burden law-abiding citizens.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider these proposed changes and engage with responsible firearms owners, sporting shooters, farmers, and industry experts before implementing reforms that will have little impact on crime while significantly affecting those who already follow the law.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my views.

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 8:28 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: CONSULTATION ON THE FIREARMS AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2026 - Submission

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To Whom it may concern

I am writing to formally submit my concerns regarding the proposed firearms reforms announced by the Tasmanian Government. I do so as a long-standing, law-abiding firearms owner who has complied with every requirement placed upon me and who has never posed any risk to "community safety".

My concern is not with genuine safety measures, but with reforms that appear to target compliant firearm owners rather than addressing criminal misuse. The proposals, as currently framed, **do not** strike the balance claimed. Instead, they impose additional burdens on the most regulated and responsible group in the country while offering no measurable improvement to public safety.

Below I outline my key points for your consideration.

1. Penalties for Theft and Possession of Stolen Firearms

Existing legislation already provides significant penalties. The issue is not the absence of laws but the enforcement of them. Increasing penalties without addressing enforcement gaps is symbolic rather than effective.

2. Intelligence Sharing and Background Checks

Current legislation already enables information sharing between agencies. If deficiencies exist, they should be identified and addressed directly. Without evidence of systemic failure, additional layers of bureaucracy do not improve safety outcomes.

3. National Firearms Register

Each state already maintains a registry. A national register adds administrative cost without addressing criminal misuse, as criminally held firearms are not registered and will not be added to any national system. Centralisation also increases pressure for uniform restrictions, which risks further unjustified limitations on compliant owners.

4. Citizenship Requirements

This proposal is broadly reasonable and largely supported within the firearms community. It is one of the few elements of the reform package that aligns with practical licensing considerations.

5. Reclassification of Straight-Pull and Lever-Release Firearms

This proposal is deeply concerning. I own firearms affected by this change and have used them safely and responsibly for many years. Reclassification based solely on mechanical similarity to prohibited categories does not reflect actual misuse or risk.

Furthermore, the practical reality in Tasmania is that recreational shooters — not farmers themselves — perform most crop protection work. Restricting these firearms to Category C will reduce the effectiveness of pest management and increase costs for primary producers.

A more balanced approach would be:

- Reclassify these firearms to Category C **only**; and
- Allow recreational shooters to access Category C under crop protection permits on properties where they provide a service.

This maintains safety oversight while preserving the practical ability to perform essential agricultural work.

6. Compensation and “Buyback”

The term “buyback” is misleading and rather insulting. The government did not purchase these firearms originally, and compulsory surrender under compensation is not voluntary. The financial burden on taxpayers is significant, and the policy does not address criminal misuse.

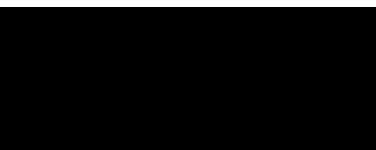
The NSW limit on firearm numbers — cited by some as a model — would not have prevented the tragic incident that prompted these reforms. The individual involved used the same number of firearms permitted under NSW law. This demonstrates that restricting compliant owners does not prevent acts of terrorism or hate-motivated violence.

Conclusion

Tasmania has historically taken a measured and evidence-based approach to firearms regulation. These reforms depart from that tradition. They impose restrictions on people who are not the source of the problem, while offering no clear pathway to improved community safety.

I respectfully request that the government reconsider the reclassification proposal and engage directly with firearms owners, dealers, and rural stakeholders to develop practical, evidence-based alternatives.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the author.

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2026 9:46 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Amenments

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Dear sir or madam

I am an older shooter and the proposed amendments would disadvantage me greatly
Because I am unable to play most
sports any more. Shooting is giving me a chance to go out with my mates and enjoy my later years .
Myself and others of my age are shooters because it's something you can compete in on a more level
field. I and my fellow shooting sportsmen and women follow the laws and regulations and safety with
regards to firearms so why should we be penalised. I have nothing against any amendments to make
things harder on criminals because they are the problem.
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Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 11:46 AM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: New gun laws help terrorists not Australians

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Please let my voice about firearms legislation and regulations be noted.

If the legislators and bureaucratic parasites were at all interested in serving the public and had any concern for public safety, they should direct their efforts towards:

- Stronger penalties for stealing firearms
 - Stronger penalties and mandatory minimums for possessing stolen firearms
 - Laws and searches that target criminals and terrorists, not legal firearms owners
- Remove laws restricting legal firearms owners

I oppose all points listed below and would like legislators and regulators to act accordingly.

- Reclassifying straight-pull and lever/button-release centre-fire rifles and shotguns to Category C
- New detachable magazine limits on Category A and B firearms
- Making Australian citizenship the default for a firearms licence
- Restrictive lending rules that require National Firearms Register verification
- 24-hour notification if a firearm is stored away from the registered address
- Cutting the interstate Category A/B transfer window from three months to seven days
- Expanding inspection powers to anyone in possession of a firearm
- National Firearms Register real-time notification and verification rules
- Continued reliance on broad Commissioner exemptions instead of clear legislation

Key reasons

- Straight-pull and lever/button-release firearms are practical for hunting and pest control. No Tasmanian evidence shows they are a public safety risk when held by licensed people.
- Many straight-pull rifles are historical with limited capacity. Reclassifying them destroys irreplaceable firearms.
- New magazine limits on Category A and B have no proven safety benefit. Criminals ignore magazine rules.
- Citizenship as the default creates unnecessary barriers and human-rights issues.
- Tasmania should recognise equivalent overseas licences to support regional tourism and hunting.
- Lending between two licensed people should not need NFR checks.
- The 24-hour storage rule is impractical for multi-day pest control and farm work.
- The National Firearms Register creates a high-value target for hackers after major Australian data breaches.
- Suppressors are occupational health and safety equipment, not silent weapons

Regards,

[REDACTED]

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15 July 2026

The Minister
Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management

By email: submissions.strategy.support@DPFEM.tas.gov.au

Dear Minister,

Proposed Amendments to the Firearms Act 1996 and the Sentencing Act 1997

I refer to your letter dated 3 July 2026 provided to me and others inviting submissions in relation to the draft legislation proposed to amend the Firearms Act 1996 ("the Act") and the Sentencing Act 1997.

I submit firstly that the drafting in the broad seems to reflect the announced policy and to integrate sufficiently with the Act as it stands presently. I add that the policy changes are in my view in the main but subject to the matters raised below commendable. They stand in marked contrast to the changes announced by the ALP/Green Alliance, which are to be condemned and fought to the death. I intend to make further submissions about the ALP/Green Alliance changes when their detail is known.

I submit secondly that the proposed amendments to section 46 do not seem to have been properly considered in a practical context and on any reasonable view go too far, in that the amendments would require a firearms owner:

- (a) who changes residential address to give some notice to the Commissioner presumably in writing within an impossibly short 24 hours-the drafting mandates notice in "an approved form" but there is no indication of what that will involve. It would be impossible in writing within the required timeframe by any means other than hand delivery or some form of electronic communication presumably by email. Not every firearm owner has access to email and at the stressful time of moving house attending to this kind of thing will be the last thing on the firearm owner's mind. In my submission the timeframe should be at least 7 days-that timeframe is set on multiple occasions in relation to similar issues elsewhere in the Act as it stands presently; and
- (b) who has more than one approved storage location, including many primary producers, to give some notice to the Commissioner within an impossibly short 24 hours every time a firearm is moved between storage locations, unless the move is to a storage location at the firearm owner's residential address. In my submission this is patently too onerous and, I am bound to say, just pointless bureaucracy which will unjustifiably interfere with the ordinary course of most primary production and other businesses. Presumably the intention is to enable the Commissioner to track firearms, but if that is the intention:
 - a. the requirement should be limited to storage locations other than another approved storage location of the firearm owner; and

- b. the requirement should exclude removal of the firearm from an approved storage location of the firearm owner to a licensed firearms dealer-firearm owners in general and especially primary producers as a matter of routine have to take their firearms to a licensed firearm dealer for maintenance or repair; and
- c. the temporal constraint needs to be extended beyond 24 hours to something reasonable, such as 7 days.

I submit thirdly that the *prima facie* mandatory three-month prison sentence for firearm theft is woefully inadequate. I retired in 2018 after more than 35 years in legal practice the early part of which involved representation of criminals mainly in lower court proceedings but occasionally in the Supreme Court. As a general proposition it is true to say that they do not like prison but criminals engaged in firearm theft in general are not petty thieves engaged in shoplifting or some other antisocial act involving only minor dishonesty; in the main they are home invaders bent on pursuing for commercial gain the lucrative trade in the sale of firearms to other professional criminals including motorcycle gang members and drug dealers. In my submission the *prima facie* mandatory sentence should be 3 years not 3 months.

I submit fourthly that the amending legislation does not deal with the following excruciating anomalies affecting the Act as it presently stands:

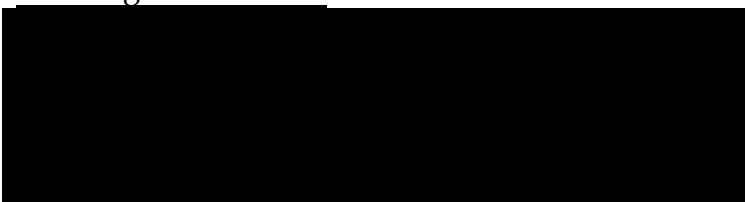
- (a) so far as is presently relevant, category C firearms are available only to a primary producer who has satisfied the Commissioner that the primary producer has a need for them, **and** who has successfully completed an approved-by-the Commissioner TAFE course at the conclusion of which the primary producer is certified by TAFE as having demonstrated safe use of them. The primary producer is only then category C licensed by the Commissioner and permitted to acquire one semiautomatic rimfire rifle and either a pump action or semiautomatic shotgun the use of which is presently restricted strictly to primary production and, on one view of the ambiguous conditions imposed by the Commissioner on the new licence, on only one property owned by the firearms owner-in other words and to be clear, on one view of the ambiguous licence conditions a fully category C licensed primary producer cannot assist another primary producer on the other's property for example by deploying a semiautomatic shotgun to manage and control under permit the predations of white cockatoos which, of course, do not recognize property boundaries. This, it is submitted, is just plain stupid and, I hesitate to add and do so only from observation rather than participation, is a restriction (if it exists) generally observed in Tasmania in the breach, that is to say, as a matter of routine primary producers help each other out with the management and control of pest species usually under permit. The aforementioned white cockatoos are a good example. In my submission this ought to be permitted as a matter of law, and the legislation amended to so permit it. But I would go further.
- (b) The requirement to use a category C firearm only for primary production results in its owner having to obtain and use another firearm of the same gauge or calibre for any other lawful purpose including for recreational hunting on the firearm owner's own farm and elsewhere. For example, a firearm owner who keeps and deploys a

category C shotgun for pest species control, such as white cockatoos, cannot use that shotgun to take wild duck during the duck season on the farmer's own farm (or elsewhere). In other words and to be clear, this means that if wild duck are present and the farmer has a recreational hunting license, but not an NRE permit, to take them, the farmer's category C shotgun cannot be deployed and the farmer has to fetch and deploy another shotgun (generally of the same gauge) for that purpose **both on the farmer's own land and on any other land**. The ALP/Green Alliance is currently threatening the lives, lifestyles and businesses of all firearm owners including primary producers by the infliction of ludicrously low "caps" on total firearm numbers; if the anomaly now being discussed is removed and a primary producer is entitled to deploy the primary producer's category C firearms **for any lawful purpose for which its owner is licensed** the primary producer could then reduce, and probably significantly reduce, the total number of firearms held by that primary producer. Further, the primary producer's category C firearms could be stored at the primary producer's residence rather than on the farm.

- (c) The worst of the Howard-era inflicted 1996 "reforms", namely the blanket 250 m rule which in summary proscribes the deployment of a firearm within 250 m of a residence without the consent of the occupant, gives an effective power of veto to any such occupant who is an enemy of firearm ownership, primary industry, or any other activity requiring or involving the use of a firearm. Usually the veto is deployed dog-in-the-manger by a member of the Green left. This was a monstrous infraction of the rights of primary producers and other property owners and, in my submission, ought to have been restricted in scope and in operation to cities and towns. It had no place, and still has no place, in any rural or semi-rural area. In my further submission it ought never to have applied to a category A firearm which is an air rifle, a 22 LR rimfire rifle, or a 410 calibre (36 gauge) shotgun.
- (d) Most importantly in relation to all of these matters, the 250 m rule **and** the several firearm usage proscriptions imposed by all firearms licences also purportedly apply if read literally even to the deployment of the firearm in lawful self-defence in accordance with the provisions therefor set out in the Criminal Code. These Act provisions if read literally thus expose an innocent homeowner who, faced with crowbar or machete wielding home invaders, deploys to good permanently neutralising effect one of the firearm owner's suitable registered firearms, to criminal prosecution in the Supreme Court for so doing and, I would add, to confiscation of the firearm owner's firearms at least for the duration of the court proceedings. This position, in my submission, is a monumental outrage the present existence of which must lead any prudent firearm owner to consider abandoning this country. I add my opinion in summary that the 250 m rule, and the said usage proscriptions, are to be read down so as to not apply when the Criminal Code self-defence provisions apply; the right to life, physical integrity and to keep and maintain one's home against criminal physical molestation of the very worst kind must prevail. But no homeowner should be put in the position of having to argue this question in court. I note that:

- a. on two occasions very recently in Sydney in New South Wales home invading thugs broke into the residences of wholly innocent homeowners and with a machete chopped off a hand of one of the residents¹;
- b. recently in Queensland two thugs invaded a home and knifed to death the wholly innocent female, and severely wounded her wholly innocent husband;
- c. very recently in Tasmania crowbar wielding thugs invaded the home of a wholly innocent homeowner at Coles Bay and severely injured the occupant before setting his uninsured house on fire-if the homeowner had managed to deploy one of his firearms he would have avoided injury and the burning of his home, but as the legislation presently stands in so doing he would have exposed himself to both criminal prosecution and the confiscation of his firearms as discussed above; and
- d. recently in country New South Wales a wholly innocent elderly couple were attacked in their own home by knife wielding individual who was either a criminal or a lunatic. Unfortunately the attacker succeeded in severely wounding both of the innocents putting the wife to ground, but the wounded husband managed to obtain, presumably from secure storage, a rifle which he was able to deploy to good effect when the attacker returned to consummate his pleasure. There is no doubt that the deployment of the rifle saved two innocent lives. If these same facts occurred in Tasmania the deployment of the firearm for self-defence may render the homeowner liable to prosecution, and the same position probably pertains in New South Wales. It is to be expected that the discretion to prosecute will be exercised favourably to the homeowner, but manifestly obviously he ought not to be in the position of having to rely on it. If it is not so exercised the likelihood, in my submission, is violent protest that may spark the revolution which the Green left and their fellow travelers have been stoking in this now highly unsafe country for the past many years.
- e. It follows that section 113 of the Act should be amended by the addition of sub-s.(5) in the following terms:
 - (5) *For the avoidance of doubt nothing in this Act renders unlawful or liable to any prosecution the use or deployment by a licenced firearm owner of any lawfully owned registered firearm in, as, or as part of the defence of life or property lawful under and in accordance with any provision of Chapter III of the Criminal Code Act 1924.*

Kind regards



¹ This case and many others gives the lie to the egregiously defamatory allegation levelled against law abiding firearm owners to the effect that that more firearms in the private hands of upright citizens make society less safe; the fact is the only individuals who are less safe are home invading thugs, other criminals and lunatics.

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2026 8:36 AM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Firearms amendment bill

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To whom it may concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in relation to the above amendment bill.

Regarding the proposed bill while some of the changes are sound and make sense others are illogical and impractical.

In particular I'd reference to Point 1 in the proposed amendments which proposes a reclassification of straight pull rifles to Category C firearms. This amendment is punitive and illogical. It will not improve public safety. Australia would be the only country, to the best of my knowledge; that would group straight pull rifles in the same category as semi-automatic shotguns and rimfire rifles! This is a knee-jerk reaction to Bondi.

Secondly, I would reference Point 7. Having to inform Tas. Police every time a firearm owner is going to store their firearm at a location other the residential address of the registered owner for more than 24 hours is ridiculous and completely unworkable! I'm not sure how this will work and I suspect it is going to significantly increase the workload for Tas. Police.....

Thirdly, I'll reference Point 10. 7 days to apply for a firearms licence if you move to Tasmanian. That is just too short a period of time. 3 months is more than adequate and should remain the period of time for Category A and B firearms.

Most of the changes proposed in this proposed bill are sensible and well considered. Especially the absence of imposed firearms ownership caps. A cap on Category A and B firearms will do nothing for public safety and there is no evidence anywhere that suggests it will. Please base any changes on evidence and continue to consult the firearms community. We don't need an approach to firearms ownership as we have seen in Western Australia and New South Wales. This is especially true of the removal in those states of a right to refer to the relevant civil and administrative tribunals regarding firearms matters. We firearms owners are already the most scrutinised demographic, and we generally accept this fact! But we have nothing more to give without our sport and way of life being ruined.

Please also continue to focus on dealing with criminals not law-abiding firearms owners when it comes to amendments to firearms laws.

Thank you again for the opportunity to make this submission.

[REDACTED]



FINAL

7th August 2026

Submissions at Strategy and Support,
Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management
GPO Box 308
Hobart
TAS 7001

By Email to: submissions.strategy.support@DPFEM.tas.gov.au

Consultation on the Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026

Dear Sir or Madam,

I welcome the opportunity to comment on the Draft Bill. I consider that a full and proper public consultation should have occurred before the creation of a Draft Bill.

The Minister (Felix Ellis) has obviously made up his mind. He has said such things as:

“One firearm in the hands of terrorists is more dangerous than 100 firearms in the hands of our farmers,”¹

I disagree with the above statement which supposes various assumptions including about farmers.

It is not just terrorists who kill other people with firearms. What about the murder of Constable Keith Anthony Smith? Was Sushames a terrorist?

I cannot understand how Ellis can make such asinine statements.

In any case I make this relatively short submission in the very unfortunate climate of a biased Minister for Police. Ellis should be moved, he has stated he has no confidence in the advice of his Police Commissioner. It is an untenable position.

I will say however that I have formed the strong view that the Minister's office has actively campaigned to stir up a fever in the rural community over the entitlement of certain of our conservative sectors of the community to own and indeed to brandish guns. A stupid campaign in my view.

¹ Pulse Tasmania Sun March 15, 2026

It is unclear whether we might all have as many guns as we would personally prefer or whether only the law abiding among us might carry an unfettered firearms arsenal.

How would the Minister and indeed more realistically The Police determine who is law abiding and who is not? Minister Ellis statements are rubbish.

I note there are other views in the Parliament over this draft Bill. I hope they might prevail and reform this inadequate Bill.

I have read the Draft Bill and have followed the various media over this issue with interest. I have looked the response in other states. This is not a comprehensive appraisal clause by clause.

I support strongly the creation of the introduction of the National Firearms Register (NFR).

I also support much tighter regulation over guns (firearms) and stronger penalties and a cap on gun ownership.

I am aware that the advice of the Police Commissioner has been ignored. This simple fact is unacceptable to me. The Commissioner is the expert in this area not some Minister who does not have any training in the area of public safety.

I agree with the simple proposition that less guns in the Tasmanian community is inevitably a safer community. It is not the only strategy but it is an important part of such a strategy.

I consider this safer community ambition to be an overriding public interest matter.

It has been reported:

"Tasmania has more than 157,000 registered firearms held by about 36,600 licence holders. Nearly 9,000 of those owners have six or more guns.

*Commissioner Adams noted the total number of firearms in circulation nationally now exceeds pre-1996 levels and said the impact of post-Port Arthur reforms had diminished over time."*²

I strongly question the need of anyone to own 6 or more guns. A much, much higher bar should exist for such a large cache of weapons, were it to continue to be allowed. Tasmania does not need more guns. Yet after Port Arthur that is the reality.

Indeed my strong preference is for a considerably lower amount of guns in the community than the 157,000 registered firearms currently.

Then there are a significant number of unregistered firearms as well, I strongly assert. I am aware that there are many, many unregistered firearms. The penalty of the ownership or possession of an unregistered firearm needs to be massively increased.

Currently:

² • Pulse Tasmania Sun March 15, 2026

*"You may not possess or use a firearm without the appropriate licence. The maximum penalty for doing so is \$15,400 and/or 2 years in prison."*³

And:

*"A person aged between 12 and 18 can apply for a minor's permit if they have the written permission of a parent or guardian. The penalty for a minor who unlawfully possesses a firearm is a maximum of \$770."*⁴

Why does a person at age 12 have either the responsibility or the maturity to handle deadly weapons? I argue they do not. Why is there such a small penalty? Ridiculous.

Loaning or selling firearms should be further restricted. Loaning a firearm should not be possible, it is unacceptable. How is that an enforceable provision?

During and in the lead up to the short consultation period there have been a number of incidents involving firearms and in all cases those incidents lead me or reinforce my position that now is the time to develop and promote a community with less reliance on firearms and that there be less firearms in the community.

One of those incidents was portrayed as 9 firearms allegedly being stolen from an East Coast property. Then it was revealed that 15 firearms were stolen. The crime was violent and the owner, a president of a local gun club clearly had an arsenal of firearms on his property.

It seems even gun owners of licensed firearms are not safe when an arsenal of guns is the prize. He was attacked, his house burnt down and all the firearms stolen. Perhaps he was lucky to survive.

Clearly such large cache of firearms is a public safety concern, even with a responsible owner.

"The most serious of the firearms offences in Tasmania are generally related to the use of a firearm. These offences include:

- *Possessing a loaded firearm in a public place. The maximum penalty is \$15,400 and/or 3 years in prison.*
- *Discharging a firearm in a public place. The maximum penalty is \$7,700 and/or 2 years in prison.*
- *Recklessly discharging a firearm within 250 metres of a dwelling house except on an approved range, or with the consent of the occupier of the dwelling house. The maximum penalty is \$7,700 and/or 2 years in prison."*⁵

These penalties should all be massively increased. It is not the point whether a particular community in general are or are not perceived to be law abiding. That very simply is an irrelevant consideration and the Minister should know that fact.

³ <https://www.gotocourt.com.au/criminal-law/tas/firearms-offences>

⁴ <https://www.gotocourt.com.au/criminal-law/tas/firearms-offences>

⁵ <https://www.gotocourt.com.au/criminal-law/tas/firearms-offences>

Currently:

"How quickly must I report a lost or stolen firearm in Tasmania?"

You must notify the Commissioner of Police within 7 days if your registered firearm or certificate of registration is lost, stolen, or sold in Tasmania. Failing to report within this timeframe carries a maximum penalty of \$7,700. Time is critical in these situations, so you should contact police immediately upon discovering the loss or theft. If you face charges for late reporting, seek urgent legal advice to understand your options."

The 7 day timeframe is ridiculous and it needs to reduce to 24 hours. Within 1 day. Indeed Police need to be advised as soon as possible.

Another incident in rural Tasmania and reported this time on the Tasmania Police website:

Constable Keith Smith, 57, was killed at North Motton, in northwest Tasmania, on June 16 2025 while he and another officer were delivering a court-ordered repossession notice.

Tuesday, 17 June 2025 - 9:26 am.

"Investigations continue today into the tragic shooting death of a Tasmania Police officer in the state's North-West on Monday.

With the permission of the officer's family, Tasmania Police Commissioner Donna Adams has confirmed the officer is Constable Keith Anthony Smith, a 25-year veteran of the police service.

Constable Smith, 57, was shot and killed at a rural property in North Motton on Monday morning as he and a fellow officer attended the premises to serve a court-ordered warrant to repossess the home.

Commissioner Adams said Constable Smith was a dedicated officer over a distinguished career with Tasmania Police, who was highly regarded and admired by his colleagues.

Constable Smith had worked in communities across the North and North-West and, for the past five years, was an officer working at Ulverstone police station.

*"Keith was a respected and committed officer, and his loss will be deeply felt across our policing family and the wider community," Commissioner Adams said."*⁶

Now this event did not get the national attention of Bondi but it must be considered to be relevant. Constable Smith was just doing his job. He was entitled to feel and be safe. He should still be alive.

"His death was the first fatal shooting of an officer in Tasmania in more than a century.

"The beloved cop received several honours, including the Commissioner's Medal in 2011 and the National Police Service Medal in 2016."

⁶ <https://www.police.tas.gov.au/news-events/media-releases/tasmania-police-mourns-fallen-officer/>

"Sushames is also facing 10 gun and drug offences, including possessing an unregistered firearm and a silencer."⁷

This is not the only violent incident, killing a policeman. Across Australia there have been a number in recent years. It is time to take a more precautionary approach.

Less guns in the community and a cap on firearms is a vitally important part of the strategy in my view. I note this killing happened at a rural property on the NW Coast, in the Minister's electorate.

Many years ago I was visiting a property in rural northern Tasmania. The person who was living in the property owned a house about 200 metres from the boundary I think.

The lessees of the next door property were shooting wallaby and whilst I was visiting turned their lights on the next door house and discharged their firearms whilst doing this cowardly terrorising act. It was indeed a harrowing experience for all of us inside. This was a low-grade marginal farm with high wildlife pressure. Law abiding farmers they were not.

The owner of this next door property had complained a number of times about the shooter's behaviour but it was always late at night and the property was a very long way from the police station.

So when Ellis talks about the farming community being law abiding, I think back to this incident and conclude simply that Ellis is simply not keeping the community safe. Yet this is an overriding imperative.

The Tasmania Police have limited resources, one can see that whenever one visits a Police Station across Tasmania, they are Spartan places. These officers have a right to feel safe as well. Less guns in the community would be safer for everyone, including the police.

When the Police Commissioner takes a strong position over firearms the Minister and the Government needs to heed the advice. The Tasmanian Parliament should heed the Police Commissioner's advice. She advised a cap on firearms and less firearms in the community.

I am not going over the whole of this Draft Bill, the public should have been given a far better briefing and a far greater opportunity to comment before the draft bill stage.

The lack of caps on gun ownership and the various weak laws is opposed.

I agree with Labor MP Willy about this matter.

"(Minister Ellis) has since taken to social media to campaign against the idea, posting videos and promoting a petition opposing what he described as Labor's plan to put "caps on Tasmanians".

"The answer to getting firearms out of the hands of the crooks is better intelligence sharing and tougher penalties for stealing firearms, not unduly impacting law abiding firearms owners," Ellis wrote below a post advertising the petition.

⁷ <https://www.nine.com.au/australia-news/tas/date-set-for-first-step-in-cop-killers-sentencing-20260320-p5qx2o.html>

“... I reckon there are a few Labor members who would sign it, they’re deeply divided on their leader’s decision.”

“Labor leader Josh Willie accused the government of lacking courage and said Labor would push for mandatory limits with crossbench support.

“The Liberals want unlimited guns in the community. Labor does not support that and Tasmanians don’t support that either,” he said.

“Labor leader Josh Willie said his party would push for firearms caps. Image / Pulse

“We support limits on the number of firearms an individual can own because the first job of any government is to keep the community safe.”⁸

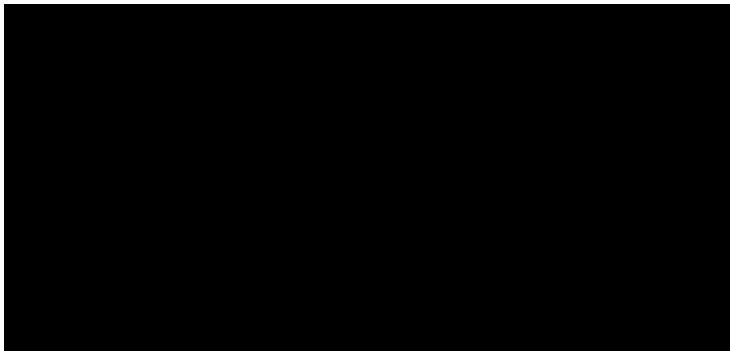
My view after looking at much of Minister Ellis’ comment and behaviour over this matter is that the Liberals seem to have a pathological disposition to unfettered gun ownership in Tasmania.

I am opposed to the Liberal’s laissez faire position, which I regard is poor.

I call upon all other parties in the Tasmanian Parliament to deliver high quality gun laws, ensure a funded buyback and far better laws including a gun cap, as well as delivering on the National Gun Register of course.

I thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Yours sincerely,



⁸ <https://www.nine.com.au/australia-news/tas/date-set-for-first-step-in-cop-killers-sentencing-20260320-p5qx2o.html>

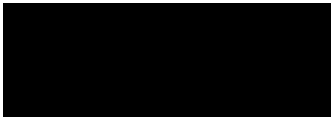
Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 1:23 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Firearms amendment Bill 2026

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

I support a cap on the amount of guns someone can own in Tasmania, similar to NSW which has moved to cap individual firearm ownership to a maximum of four guns for recreational licence holders, and up to 10 guns for primary producers, pest controllers, and sports shooters.

I also support a mandatory prison sentence for criminals who steal firearms. This alone is not enough, as obviously not all criminals get caught.



Tasmania

Sent from my Galaxy

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2026 6:54 AM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Firearms Amendment Bill Submission

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] learn why this is important at [REDACTED]]

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed limit of four firearms per licensed firearms owner in Tasmania.

As a licensed firearms owner, I believe this proposal does not adequately reflect the legitimate reasons why responsible people own more than four firearms. Firearms are not interchangeable tools. Different calibres and firearm types are suited to different lawful purposes, including hunting various game species, pest management, target shooting, and participation in different sporting disciplines at approved shooting clubs. A blanket numerical limit fails to recognise these practical differences.

Licensed firearms owners in Tasmania are already subject to rigorous background checks, licensing requirements, secure storage obligations, and ongoing compliance with firearms legislation. Those who hold licences have demonstrated their willingness to comply with strict legal responsibilities. Introducing an arbitrary cap appears to target people who are already following the law rather than addressing those who do not.

I am also concerned that this proposal is being justified as a public safety measure without sufficient evidence that limiting the number of firearms owned by licensed individuals will reduce violent crime. Public policy should be based on evidence and should focus on measures that address genuine risk.

Following incidents such as the Bondi Junction attack, it is understandable that governments seek to improve community safety. However, the circumstances of that attack involved complex issues surrounding mental health, threat assessment, and the identification and management of individuals who may pose a risk. In my view, strengthening those systems is likely to have a greater impact on public safety than imposing additional restrictions on licensed firearms owners who have already met stringent legal requirements.

Effective public safety measures should focus on preventing unlawful access to weapons, improving information sharing between relevant agencies where appropriate, supporting mental health services, and ensuring existing firearms laws are effectively enforced. These approaches are more likely to reduce risk than imposing a fixed ownership limit on people who have complied with every legal obligation placed upon them.

I respectfully ask the Tasmanian Government to reconsider this proposal and instead engage with licensed firearms owners, sporting organisations, hunting groups, and other stakeholders to develop evidence-based policies that improve public safety without unnecessarily restricting the rights of responsible, law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2026 7:38 AM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Firearms buybacks.

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

The on,y people affected will be the lawful owners.

This will cost millions and have absolutely no effect on the criminal element.

A good example of government waste, of a paradiastolic situation that avoids the true cause.



Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2026 4:52 AM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Proposed new firearms legislation

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] learn why this is important at
<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Sent from my iPad I 100% disagree with any changes to the firearms legislation except for harsher penalties for criminals and gun theft. There is absolutely no evidence that restricting the amount of guns you can own the type of action they are ie straight pull or button release and having to report to police were I am if I'm away from home hunting for more than 24 hours is going to make the public any safer.please don't forget that 4 other states have already dropped all this nonsense and elections do come back around

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 11:10 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Proposed firearm law changes

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom this may concern, I am a law abiding legal firearms licence holder who strongly oppose these new firearms laws that are being proposed to Tasmania.

I am however, in great favour for much stronger laws and punishments for the firearms theft, being in possession of a stolen firearm and for misuse of a firearm. BUT NOT in support of laws that only target legal, safe and responsible firearms owners who have not done anything to deserve such ill treatment and to be spoken about as if we are such criminals.

I strongly oppose the digital implementation of the firearms regulation system due to experience with other aus/tas government organisations having the data hacked, released and misused with breaches by their system and by criminals gaining access to sensitive data like the hacking of mygov, tas education system, medicare, telstra, optus, Vodafone and superannuation firms to state the least. It is extremely dangerous to have this data so readily available for hackers to get their hands on. By doing this you are potentially putting so many risks in place.

The current laws are more than enough and no changes need to be made, only more stronger penalties for the criminals so that way it will work as a much higher and effective deterrent to commit such terrible acts.

We the tasmanian people and legal law abiding firearm owners are sick and tired of being treated like criminals and taking the blame for such horrible acts.

I apologise if this email comes off as "blunt", I am just very concerned and believe that these new proposed changes completely miss the mark.

I urge you to please take an evidence based, common-sense approach and to openly discuss concerns you have with this matter to groups that are extensively experienced with firearms and firearm related activities such as the SSAA, SHO Tasmania, the Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party and the law abiding firearms owners including the firearms/hunting stores and primary producers.

I oppose the reclassification of straight pull and button release as well. As I believe that to be heavily misguided and no need for a change.

I also want to oppose of any firearms caps as that will do nothing to stop criminals what so ever. The law is already in effect that for any firearm permit to acquire, there has to be a genuine reason that has to meet the tas police acceptance and needs to be explained why a current firearm is not suited for that task.

E.g. using a .243 calibre bullet rifle to hunt small deer is humane and is the minimum safe requirement but is far too large and Impractical for hunting/harvesting/controlling rabbits as it would destroy too much if not all of the animal and could be too much of a risk for an inhumane kill let alone a hazard for the backdrop of the target due to bullet velocity/energy so you would need a much

smaller calibre bullet firearm. Let alone some firearms are required and have separate uses for terrain types - open flats and dense bushland would both need different firearms which generally would have to be of a variety of calibre sizes or even same calibre with different rifle requirements but could consist of the same action type/category.

E.g. a .22lr would be ideal for dense bushland with thick brush, exposed rocks etc where the .22lr would drop quick, lose energy and would not travel far and have a lower risk in that terrain. But a .17hmr would shoot further by not dropping as quick and having that straight trajectory would be best suited for open fields or even another .22lr with heavier grain packed bullets with a barrel to suit, zeroed scope for the distance, bipod etc could do the trick but then it becomes impractical for dense bushland hunting and increases the risk of inhumane harvest.

Every firearm has to be justified each time with the permit to acquire. So already you have a CAP like system in place. If you limit the firearms too much, then you will create a much more likelyhood of a potential inhumane kill that you are forcing upon the hunter/controller. NOW Hunters already make sure they are ONLY taking shots that can be done humanely. We the law abiding firearm owners are simply stating that caps for hunting would make it significantly more hazardous out there in the field and would do nothing to stop criminals in the first place as they do not follow laws to begin with and with targeted laws that go after the criminal then they would certainly think again about breaking the law!

That's not to mention that caps would also have a negative effect on the economy with firearm sales, stores that would close down and extensive knowledge of firearms, ballistics, hunting and outdoors culture and experience fall by the way side and also family generation firearms/tools getting passed down would all have a terrible outcome by the buy back confiscation scheme and again does nothing for public safety and stop criminals.

I say, "lets just get behind the current laws as we already do and simply just police the rules further with any theft/misuse and just use common-sense".

Im sure many other people have emailed through statements regarding issues with these new proposed laws so I wont drum on any further as you must already have enough to read through.

It is a great privilege to have a firearms licence in this beautiful country.

I hope you find the time to read this email and understand our view point on this matter.

If you require any more information or have any questions please dont hesitate to email a return.

Yours sincerely,
A law abiding legal firearms owner.

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2026 12:51 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Feedback on Consultation on the Firearms Amendment Bill

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To whom it may concern,

I believe the proposed bill does not go far enough to address the number of firearms in the community. While recognising the need for firearms for certain citizens in the community, such as farmers, I think changes should be made to limit the firearms that an individual can own to what is strictly necessary.

I do not think there is justification for one person to own more than three or four firearms of various types. For example, a farmer may require a shotgun for controlling rabbits, a small calibre rifle for rabbits or wallabies etc, and perhaps a larger calibre rifle for controlling deer or euthanising cattle. Anything in excess of this, in my opinion, only increases the number of firearms in the community with the associated risk of theft and subsequent nefarious use by criminals.

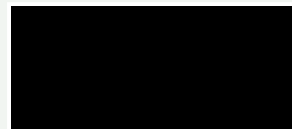
The suggested increasing of penalties for firearm theft is justified, but ultimately unlikely to reduce the risk of theft. Put simply, the more guns that are available to be stolen, the more that will be stolen, and for this reason the overall number owned by individuals should be restricted.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026

Prepared in response to the Tasmanian Government
consultation



BACKGROUND OR INTEREST

**Licenced firearm owner,
sporting shooter,
conservation hunter and
community member**

Prepared 4 August 2026

Tas Firearms Submission Builder

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Submission summary

Overall, this submission supports 7 amendments, opposes 8, is unsure about 5, and records no comment on 1.



AMENDMENT 1

Reclassification of straight-pull and button/lever-release centre-fire rifles and shotguns, including lever-action shotguns

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- Classification should be based on evidence rather than appearance, public reaction to specific events, or theoretical differences in cycling speed.
- Some firearm owners consider the practical rate of fire between conventional bolt-action and straight-pull manually operated firearms to be broadly comparable, and may question whether any difference is sufficient to justify reclassification.
- Category C access is significantly more restricted and the proposal could prevent ordinary licence holders from continuing to own firearms that may have substantial financial or sentimental value.
- The proposal may impose substantial cost on lawful owners without a demonstrated public-safety benefit proportionate to that impact.

Suggested alternatives

- More targeted enforcement against unlawful possession.
- A narrower amendment focused on the identified risk.

AMENDMENT 2

Australian citizenship as the default firearms-licensing requirement

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- Citizenship is not necessarily a measure of a person's character, safety or suitability.
- Permanent residents can have longstanding community, employment and family ties.
- Existing fit-and-proper-person, background-check and genuine-reason tests may already address risk.
- Current licensed firearm owners who are not Australian citizens may lose their firearms licence and may no longer be able to lawfully possess their firearms unless they qualify for an exemption or are protected by a transition arrangement.

Suggested alternatives

- A narrower amendment focused on the identified risk.

Additional comments

Concessions need to be included to allow overseas hunters to be able to hunt in Australia under supervision of suitably licensed firearm owners.

AMENDMENT 3

Restriction on on-lending firearms

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- It keeps the registered owner closer to the person actually possessing the firearm.
- It may reduce confusion about where a firearm is located.
- It may reduce the chance of loss, misplacement or unauthorised possession.

AMENDMENT 4

Verification of borrower licence and storage

UNSURE

Reasons for remaining unsure

- I need more evidence or detail before deciding.
- The practical effect on lawful owners is not yet clear.

AMENDMENT 5

Nationally consistent firearm terminology

NO COMMENT

AMENDMENT 6

Clarification of firearm and firearm-part definitions

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- Clear definitions can close genuine loopholes involving incomplete or disassembled firearms.
- Clarity may improve enforcement and reduce inconsistent interpretation.
- Modern definitions can better reflect contemporary manufacturing and technology.

AMENDMENT 7

Notification of storage away from the owner's residence

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- A 24-hour threshold may be impractical for hunting trips, competitions, work, repairs or emergencies.
- The rule should focus on the primary storage location rather than brief lawful travel.
- Repeated notifications may create administrative burden without improving physical security.

Suggested alternatives

- More targeted enforcement against unlawful possession.

AMENDMENT 8

Notification before changing residential address

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- The obligation should use a reasonable period and avoid penalising harmless delay.
- Current regulations are more than adequate on notifying police of change of address

AMENDMENT 9

Expanded authority for firearms dealer employees

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- It may improve practical business operation and staffing flexibility.
- Licensed and vetted employees could handle routine transactions.
- Clear authority may reduce uncertainty under the current law.

AMENDMENT 10

Seven-day Tasmanian licence application for new interstate residents

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- Seven days is very short during a household move and may be difficult where documents or appointments are unavailable.
- Interstate licences should remain recognised while a timely Tasmanian application is processed.

AMENDMENT 11

Advance notice of changes in personal particulars

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- Many personal changes are not known seven days in advance.
- The Bill should specify which particulars can reasonably be pre-notified.
- An 'as soon as practicable' option should apply to unplanned changes.
- Technical noncompliance should not attract disproportionate penalties.

AMENDMENT 12

Production of firearms for police inspection

UNSURE

Reasons for remaining unsure

- I need more evidence or detail before deciding.
- The practical effect on lawful owners is not yet clear.

AMENDMENT 13

Possession of stolen firearms offence and penalty

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- Stolen firearms present a serious public-safety risk and stronger penalties may be justified.
- Clear offence elements can improve consistent prosecution.
- The change targets unlawful possession rather than licensed ownership.

AMENDMENT 14

Alternative conviction for possession of stolen firearms

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- It may avoid a complete acquittal where serious proven conduct falls short of trafficking.
- Alternative verdicts can improve court efficiency.
- The lesser offence would still need to be proven.

AMENDMENT 15

Summary trial option for unlawful firearms trafficking

UNSURE

Reasons for remaining unsure

- I need more evidence or detail before deciding.

AMENDMENT 16

New summary offence of stealing a firearm or firearm part

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- A specific summary offence may permit timely prosecution of suitable cases.
- It recognises the particular danger associated with stolen firearms.
- It may reduce unnecessary higher-court proceedings.

AMENDMENT 17

Expansion of firearm prohibition orders

UNSURE

Reasons for remaining unsure

- I need more evidence or detail before deciding.

AMENDMENT 18

Magazine ammunition-capacity limits for Category A and B firearms

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- The government should publish evidence linking affected magazine capacities to Tasmanian crime risk.
- Limits may have little effect on criminals using stolen or prohibited firearms.
- The proposal may impose costs on sporting shooters, hunters and primary producers.

Suggested alternatives

- More targeted enforcement against unlawful possession.

AMENDMENT 19

Updated identification requirements for licence applications

UNSURE

Reasons for remaining unsure

- I need more evidence or detail before deciding.

AMENDMENT 20

Three-month mandatory minimum imprisonment for stolen-firearm offences

SUPPORT

Reasons given in support

- Stealing or knowingly possessing a stolen firearm is serious and creates community risk.
- A minimum sentence may express strong denunciation and provide consistency.
- The measure is directed at criminal firearm diversion.

AMENDMENT 21

Electronic firearms dealer record keeping

OPPOSE

Concerns that have been raised

- Cybersecurity, outages, backups and access controls must be addressed.
- Clear rules are needed for data ownership, corrections and retention.

Further suggestions

- Prioritise theft prevention, secure storage and enforcement against unlawful possession before imposing broad reclassifications on lawful owners.
- Publish the evidence relied upon for each firearm reclassification and explain the expected public-safety benefit.
- Separate broadly supported administrative and criminal-law reforms from contentious firearm reclassification proposals.
- Provide clear grandfathering, compensation and transition arrangements for owners of firearms or magazines that are currently lawful.
- Review each affected firearm type individually rather than grouping manually operated actions together without demonstrated evidence of equivalent risk.
- Increase penalties for stealing firearms or assisting firearm theft.
- Increase resources for investigating illegal firearm trafficking and unlawful possession.
- Provide grants or rebates to help lawful owners upgrade firearm storage.

Closing comments

- I support amendments that have a demonstrated and proportionate public-safety benefit, but I do not support changes based primarily on optics, political pressure or unsupported assumptions.
- Some amendments may make a real difference to community safety, while others may unfairly affect lawful owners without a demonstrated reduction in risk.
- Lawful firearm ownership and criminal misuse should be treated as separate policy questions, with restrictions directed at the actual source of harm.

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 2:52 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

I make this submission in my personal capacity as a lawful Tasmanian firearm owner.

I support practical measures that improve public and police safety. However, the introduction of the National Firearms Register must be accompanied by strong and enforceable protections for the privacy and personal safety of lawful firearm owners.

The register will contain an exceptionally sensitive combination of information, potentially including:

- the names and addresses of firearm owners;
- firearms licence and permit details;
- particulars of registered firearms; and
- the locations at which firearms are stored.

In the wrong hands, this information could effectively become a list of potential targets for firearm theft.

This is not a theoretical concern. Western Australia has previously published mapping showing concentrations of firearm ownership, and a later security incident reportedly allowed unauthorised access to firearm storage-location information. I do not suggest that individual owners' names were publicly released. However, these events demonstrate the serious risks created when firearm information is not adequately protected.

I have also received personal accounts concerning known firearm owners in the Burnie area being identified as potential targets. I cannot independently verify or publicly identify the people involved, but the concern is credible and should not be dismissed when designing a register containing ownership and storage information.

The National Firearms Register should therefore be treated as a protected security system, rather than an ordinary administrative database.

The legislation should expressly require:

1. Access to be limited to authorised persons with a genuine operational need.
2. Every access, search, amendment and disclosure to be individually logged and regularly audited.
3. Serious penalties for unauthorised access, use or disclosure by police, public servants, contractors or other users.
4. Mandatory notification to affected firearm owners where their personal or storage information may have been compromised.
5. Protection against the publication of maps, statistics or aggregated information that could identify individual owners, clubs, small communities or likely firearm storage locations.

6. Any public or dealer licence-verification service to return only whether a licence or permit is valid, without disclosing firearms, addresses, storage locations or other personal information.
7. Independent privacy and cybersecurity assessment before the system becomes operational, followed by regular external review.
8. Clear limits on the sharing of information between agencies and jurisdictions, including requirements that information only be used for lawful and defined purposes.

Lawful firearm owners should not lose their entitlement to privacy, personal security or procedural fairness simply because they comply with firearms legislation.

Poorly protected register information could increase the risk of firearm theft and place firearm owners, their families, police and the broader community in danger. That outcome would be contrary to the stated community-safety purpose of the National Firearms Register.

I therefore ask that clear, enforceable and independently audited privacy and security protections be included in the legislation before Tasmania participates in the National Firearms Register.

Confidentiality request

I request that my residential address, telephone number, email address and any other information capable of identifying my firearm holdings or storage arrangements be withheld from publication.

Publication of that information could create a personal and property security risk.

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 4:27 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Gun laws

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

My idea is that the number of firearms is irrelevant, because someone who wants to use a gun illegally only needs one gun to do any damage, so the status quo seems a reasonable. Therefore there should be no change. The important part is that guns are registered and properly stored.

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2026 12:32 PM
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Firearms Act 1996 submission

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the amendments to the firearms act 1996. These changes do not target the main issues around illegal firearm use. These laws target law abiding firearms owners and do nothing to deter repeat violent criminals who are regularly let out on bail or sentenced to entirely inappropriate terms of imprisonment.

Police Commissioner Donna Adams suggesting that law abiding owners need to be further limited in the firearms they can keep so they are not stolen is an insanely out of touch response to a problem caused by violent criminals and religious extremists.

These suggested amendments do nothing to target this issue and a 3 month mandatory minimum prison sentence will do nothing to deter repeat, violent criminals who will torture people to steal their firearms.

Much longer sentences for people who break and enter, use violence and steal other people's property is what is needed. Rehabilitating offenders and implementing restorative justice practices have far better success than our current broken system of repeatedly letting violent people out of overcrowded jails after woefully short sentences.

The only change I support is that non-citizens can not own firearms, how that isn't already a law is unbelievable.

Kind Regards [REDACTED].