**Submissions.Strategy.Support**

**From:** Jiri [redacted]
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**To:** Submissions.Strategy.Support
**Subject:** CONSULTATION ON THE POLICE OFFENCES AMENDMENT (KNIVES AND PROHIBITED WEAPONS) BILL 2026

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[redacted]

Hello,

I have already communicated this to minister Ellis, without response. Therefore I ask you, the lawmakers, to reject or amend, the proposed machete law.

Minister Ellis was quoted saying "There are virtually no people who need to use machetes," exempting only selected professionals from the ban. This shows exceptional degree of ignorance.

Banning hobby farmers and gardeners like myself from owning machetes will not save any lives, nor reduce crime - not in a world abounding in sharp objects, cookware, even sticks, stones, bricks and fists. The ministerial focus should be on increased prison, police and court capacities, if crime is to be reduced, and long term improvements in education and general culture.

**On the contrary, forcing people to use machete alternatives, namely petrol brush cutters and chainsaws, will result in increased injury rates. (Let me put this "on record" here.)**

It is us, hobby farmers, who are primarily affected by this needless ban - not the professionals (nor the criminals). Professionals typically use expensive power tools, which us hobbyists can't afford or don't need. I'm not the only one saying this: small landowners have been commenting en masse online, that they use machetes for blackberries, ferns, etc. So does my family on regular basis.

No alternatives exist to machetes, particularly ones safe for a young person to use, which don't cost over $100.

Let me suggest 2 important amendments:

1. **Ban the carrying of a machete outside one's private property, not the lawful ownership.**
2. **If you do decide to ban ownership, then exempt landowners of 1 acre or more.**

Machetes are safe and indispensable tools for countless Tasmanians.

Thank you for your consideration

[redacted]