Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: Patrick Gaynor [redacted]
Sent: 23 July 2026 18:03
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Proposed machete ban

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is nt

To whom it may concern,
I am writing to express my concerns regarding proposals to ban machetes in Tasmania.
While I understand and support efforts to reduce violent crime and improve public safety, I do not believe that a blanket ban on machetes is the most effective approach. Machetes are legitimate tools that are widely used for agricultural work, land management, gardening, and outdoor recreation. Many Tasmanians, particularly those in rural areas, rely on them for practical and lawful purposes.
A machete is a broad term that could potentially cover a lot of different types of 'large bladed choppers' the proposed bill doesn't define what a machete actually is, therefore giving people little insight into what is actually prohibited under the new act.
A broad prohibition could place unnecessary burdens on responsible owners while doing little to address the underlying causes of violent offending. Individuals who intend to commit crimes may simply substitute other readily available weapons or obtain prohibited items illegally. As a result, law-abiding citizens may be disproportionately affected by restrictions that have limited impact on criminal behavior.
Instead of banning a useful tool outright, I encourage consideration of measures that more directly target criminal misuse. These could include stronger penalties for using any weapon during the commission of an offence, targeted enforcement against repeat violent offenders, education on safe ownership and storage, and evidence-based violence prevention initiatives.
I appreciate the importance of balancing community safety with the needs of people who use tools responsibly. I hope any policy changes will be guided by evidence and carefully consider the impacts on legitimate users.
Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective. I appreciate your service to the Tasmanian community and look forward to seeing policies that both enhance public safety and respect the needs of responsible citizens.

Kind regards,
Patrick Gaynor

--
Kind Regards,
Patrick