Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: iain pinkard [redacted]
Sent: 12 August 2026 15:11
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Amendments Knives and prohibited Weapons Bill 2026

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding the proposed amendments to the Knives and Prohibited Weapons Bill 2026.

As a collector of arms and militaria for more than 50 years, and a member of the Arms Collectors Guild of Tasmania, I am concerned that the proposed legislation does not appear to adequately provide for museums and legitimate private collectors who possess historically significant items that may fall within the proposed restrictions.

Machetes and similar edged tools and weapons have a long military and historical context. Many examples held in established collections were manufactured for, issued to, or used by military personnel, including both specialist and general service units. These items can therefore have genuine historical, research and heritage value. In many cases, their significance lies not simply in the object itself, but in its provenance and its connection with particular periods, conflicts, units or individuals.

I support appropriate measures aimed at preventing the misuse of weapons and improving public safety. However, I believe the legislation should distinguish between the unlawful or inappropriate possession and use of these items and their legitimate possession by museums, historical organisations and bona fide collectors.

I am also concerned that a sufficiently clear definition of a “machete” is required. The term can encompass a broad range of edged tools and implements, and without careful definition there is a risk that the legislation could unintentionally capture historical, agricultural, military or ethnographic items that would not ordinarily be understood or treated as prohibited weapons.

I therefore ask that consideration be given to:

- appropriate exemptions, permits or grandfathering arrangements for museums and bona fide collectors;
- the continued lawful ownership, transfer and preservation of historically significant examples;
- a clear and sufficiently precise definition of what constitutes a machete for the purposes of the legislation; and
- consultation with museums, historical organisations and recognised collecting bodies to ensure that the legislation achieves its public safety objectives without inadvertently restricting legitimate historical preservation and collecting.

I appreciate the intent of measures designed to address the misuse of knives and other weapons. My concern is that the legislation be sufficiently targeted so that historically significant objects held responsibly for collecting, research and preservation are not unintentionally lost, surrendered or destroyed.

Thank you for considering these matters as part of the consultation process.

Kind regards,

Iain Pinkard
Member, Arms Collectors Guild of Tasmania