



Advice of inquiry update – Inquiry into Firearms Amendment Bills

Statement pursuant to Standing Order 246A

Madam/Mr Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 246A, I wish to make a statement on behalf of the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs relating to a new inquiry and the conduct of an existing inquiry.

On 4 February 2026, the Committee was referred the Firearms (Public Safety) Amendment Bill 2026 and decided to inquire into the bill on 11 February 2026.

On 24 February 2026, the Committee was also referred the Firearms (Firearm Prohibition Orders) Amendment Bill 2026 and, given the significant new search powers that would be granted to ACT Policing under this bill, has decided to inquire into this bill on 4 March 2026.

I wish to inform the Assembly that given both bills are together part of wider reforms to firearms legislation in the ACT following the Bondi Beach Terror Attack and involve similar stakeholders, the Committee has decided to inquire into both bills simultaneously as part of a single inquiry. I will therefore be moving a motion to extend the reporting date of the Firearms (Public Safety) Amendment Bill 2026 from 3 May 2026 to 24 May 2026 to align with the due date for the Firearms (Firearm Prohibition Orders) Amendment Bill 2026.

In acknowledgement of this, the Committee has extended the existing submission deadline for the Firearms (Public Safety) Amendment Bill 2026 to 10 April 2026 so that stakeholders can have further time if they wish to also comment on the Firearms (Firearm Prohibition Orders) Amendment Bill 2026.