



# Submission cover sheet

## Inquiry into Legislation on proposed firearms reform

Submission number: 022

Submitter: Geoff Taylor

Date authorised for publication: 11 March 2026

**From:**  
**To:** [LA Committee - Legal](#)  
**Subject:** Submission - Firearms (Public Safety) Amendment Bill 2026  
**Date:** Tuesday, 3 March 2026 10:32:58 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

I would like to submit some comments in relation to the proposed Firearms (Public Safety) Amendment Bill 2026.

Some background would be appropriate and being:

In relation to the Bondi shootings, the NSW Government issued a Gun Licence to a non-Australian on a recurring Visitors Visa and let him purchase weapons, it investigated his son for allegiance to ISIS and decided he hasn't got one, only to have him turn up and do this with the black flag on his bonnet. The Government took three years to grant one of the terrorists a gun licence.

Why are responsible firearms owners being blamed for these actions and made to suffer the consequences!

You will NOT make this the Australian peoples' fault, you will not smudge the name of firearms owners in this country who still live with the stink of Port Arthur on them as if they were the problem. Responsible firearms owners have lived with and complied to every past restriction. This failing is the Governments completely and suggesting otherwise is rubbish and a copout.

The Bondi beach was still a crime scene when Premier Minns was stating he would make the NSW Gun Laws the toughest in Australia, and it was only afterwards the shortcomings by Government in granting the terrorists licences became public.

Responsible firearm owners already follow strict rules, yet terrorists still pose the real threat. Fair laws should target criminals, not Australians who obey the law.

The proposed firearms laws are being rushed through and that never works.

I see the reference to "belt fed firearms" in the proposed legislation at Clause 21 *Dictionary, new definitions*. I believed that had been previously removed at the suggestion of firearms bodies given they do not exist. I am still not clear as to what the intent was here, but if it was the case of a belt that could hold ammunition, then you could also have situations where ammunition could be held in a bucket, cardboard box etc.

I am aware that a lot of family members are applying for firearms licences, and I don't believe the Governments fully considered the outcomes of their actions. At the present time Queensland, and possibly Victoria, are not placing restrictions on the numbers of firearms that can be owned by licenced firearms users.

The proposed limitations referred to in *Clause 52A Authority conferred by licence—limitation on number of firearms possessed or used by licensees* is inadequate in a lot of cases.

I am actively involved in competition shooting and hunting and own 13 firearms plus an heirloom. It will be a sad day for me when I must select which ones to

hand in. I am 66 years of age and have owned one of these firearms since the age of 14 years.

I can't understand why the Government couldn't stagger a buyback over several years or put the restrictions on the numbers of firearms that could be owned on new shooters.

You may recall the Bondi Junction stabbings at which six people were murdered. At no stage was there any mention of a restriction on knife ownership. In these cases the murderer gets the blame, but if it involves firearms, the Government blames and punished law-abiding citizens.

Whilst not directly related to the proposed Bill, I don't believe the Government has adequately considered how it will pay for the proposed buy-back. I understand the Federal Government will be funding this, possibly by an increase in the Medicare Levy, but you will now be aware the ACT Government received a concerning report today about its balance sheet and credit rating. The cost of living is also at an all time high and any additional expense on Australians will be difficult.

The money for the buyback would be better used in so many other ways.

I have found it difficult to obtain some of the information to complete my submission. I expect a lot of stakeholders will find it too hard to comply and will not respond. Despite good intentions for open Government, you need to consider that not everyone is computer literate or has the necessary writing skills to respond in a meaningful manner. It would be a lot easier if the old and new documents were combined with the proposed changes highlighted. Stakeholders have not been given inadequate time and information to respond appropriately to the Governments plans, and I suggest are trying to rush this through before the results of the Royal Commission are known and Government shortcomings published. There are a lot of firearms owners very disappointed in the actions of the Government.

Thank you for considering my response.

King regards,

Geoff Taylor