



# Submission cover sheet

## Inquiry into the Firearms (Public Safety) Amendment Bill 2026

Submission number: 015

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**From:**  
**To:** [LA Committee - Legal](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submission on the proposed new 2026 Firearm Laws in the A.C.T.  
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Good Morning to you,

I am a resident of the ACT who's family (in 4 more years) will have continuously resided in this present location (what is now the A.C.T.) for 200 years.

In my 69<sup>th</sup> year as a continuous resident of the A.C.T., (50years of which I have also been a Law Abiding Firearm Owner – “LAFO”), I believe I have a very good understanding and knowledge of what is both good and practical in a common-sense approach to laws in general, and firearm laws in particular, along with their effective enforcement.

As the recipient of two previous firearm Buy-Backs and the draconian laws that accompanied them I believe I have a better understanding than most of how effective/ineffective these Buy-Backs and the new firearm laws that accompanied them were, and how they actually did Not address the problem we were constantly told they would resolve.

As in these two previous firearm Buy-Backs as well as the new firearm laws that accompanied them, we have the benefit of and should now use this benefit of hindsight to see how effective/ineffective these same Buy-Backs and new firearm laws that accompanied them were in addressing the problem/s that we were told they would resolve, prior to implementing even more probably ineffective laws.

Can I please ask that members of the A.C.T. Legislative Assembly look into the effectiveness of the two previous firearm Buy-Backs as well as the new firearm laws that accompanied them?

Symptoms and Cause:

In regard to this, I will use a common medical explanation:

“By only Treating The Symptoms of a Problem and not Treating The Cause of a Problem you will not address The Problem”.

As a result of this, I need to ask the following.

In the present instance, “The Problem” that we are now told will be “Treated” by these proposed new firearm laws, will those people responsible for approving and implementing any firearm laws that only treat “The Symptoms of a Problem” be held responsible when “The Untreated Problem” again becomes a problem?

#### Criminals and Illicit Firearms:

Further to this, Criminals by their very nature, obtain their illicit firearms I assume from other criminals.

I have heard some suggest that all firearms were once legally owned by members of the public. I would like to mention here, and we should remember that this firearm supply chain should also include the Police and Military as regular sources.

#### Chemists and Illicit Drugs:

Using the same official methodology that has/is used with regard to misuse of firearms, do Members of the A.C.T. Legislative Assembly intend to punish all Chemists when the next batch of illicitly produced pills are seized in an AFP, etc drug bust?

Most LAFO's at least, already understand that this will never occur. The hypocrisy and double standards applied here, and in multiple other instances are unbelievable.

#### Public Safety and Firearms:

We are constantly told when it comes to firearms, that the need to introduce tougher and or draconian gun laws is in the name/cause of "Public Safety".

Why then do we never hear "Public Safety" applied to, and the mention of draconian new Car and Motorcycle laws?

In 2025 as in the previous year, over 1300 people died and 10,000's of people were seriously injured on Australian roads. Yet despite this, I can still buy multiple types of motor vehicles that are capable of being driven at three times the posted speed limit (remember the "Speed Kills", etc, etc road signs?).

Given the "Annual Road Toll" (yes, that is how it is officially described), why then if "Public Safety" is apparently so important to our politicians won't the States, Territories and Federal Governments apply new draconian laws to car and motorcycle in the name of "Public Safety"?

The same question could also be asked of and applied to Alcohol, Tobacco, and a myriad of other things as well but as a LAFO's, we understand that this has nothing to do with "Public Safety". The hypocrisy and double standards applied here really are unbelievable!

Despite the best intentions of some "to be seen to be doing something", and as I mention above, I believe that criminals will continue to go about "Business as Usual" regardless of if these proposed new laws are put in place. States like Queensland, Tasmania as well as the Northern Territory already understand this is the case, and I ask the A.C.T. Legislative Assembly to likewise not implement these proposed new firearm laws, as from my past experience with this, I also know they "Will not Treat the Cause of The Problem".

I have deliberately keep my above submission to the A.C.T. Legislative Assembly on the proposed new firearm laws, as short and to the point as is possible.

Please find below my contact detail if you would like to discuss my above submission further.

Best regards

John Bladen