

Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

To those addressed, Per the widespread concerns around the proposed QLD Community Safety Bill of 2024 I write this submission to express my dissatisfaction with the bill as it stands and to request that it not be passed without review and amendment. In large I find that this bill proposes to infringe on the rights of the innocent on the notion that it MIGHT make people safer. This is reckless and could have far reaching consequences for all now and into the future. I find the terms of the bill are written far too broadly, for example allowing for warrantless searches and the removal of social media posts that the powers that be disagree with on only an association to a FPO subject is a slippery slope to shortcuts for the police to exercise powers they shouldn't have through the loophole of association. I understand the point of the warrantless search sections is to prevent someone subject to an FPO from simply giving illegal guns to other people to hide, I believe the Bill is too broad in this regard and does not contain any safeguards to ensure innocent people are not caught up in a police matter due to simply being related to, working with, or in some the transport as an FPO subject. In most circumstances we do not choose our family or colleagues and this unfairly subjects them to a loss of rights for the failure of others which is unacceptable and unjust. The notion that a law abiding hunter or shooter could lose access to their hobby over, for example, speaking unknowingly to an FPO subject online -not even regarding a criminal matter- is absurd. This would amount to punishing the innocent for the crimes of the guilty and would be a slippery societal slope. The writing of the bill must be far more narrow and clear to protect our community successfully going forward. Not just from criminals but from legal loopholes used to abuse power. I understand that there has been an increase in crime and particularly youth crime, but I also understand that these issues are at their core social issues that this bill will treat a small portion of the symptoms of, rather than any of the root causes. There is no need to rush such a risky and broadly written bill into law. I had submitted a request to extend the period of consultation, which has been made absurdly short, but it seems unlikely to be extended at this point. Therefore, I send this submission with the caveat that it doesn't have an adequate time frame behind it and that the bill should not be passed as is, further consultation is required and narrowing of terms is necessary for the protection of our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.