

Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee](#)
Subject: Submission against the Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024
Date: Wednesday, 15 May 2024 9:07:21 PM

Good evening,

I'm writing to make a submission against the Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024; as a firearms owner myself I have concerns about the implications of the wording in sections of the bill to firearms owners broadly, and how said implications go against principles that most Australians hold dear.

Specifically:

1. **Firearms Prohibition Orders.** S141E (2)(d) lists one of the criteria for potentially being eligible for a FPO as being 'whether the individual is an associate of a recognised offender', with one of the definitions of an associate being if the person 'has a romantic or familial relationship with the offender'. The implication is you could be hit with an FPO just because you have a family member who has done the wrong thing – this kind of collective punishment by bloodline is a disturbing idea.
2. **Doubling of licence application disqualification period applying retrospectively.** The new disqualification period appears to apply to persons who obtained a licence after the end of their 5 year disqualification period under the previous legislation (after demonstrating the required reform), but are inside the new 10 year window. This retrospective application is inconsistent with one of the fundamental principles of the rule of law - that people can only be punished in accordance with the law and that the law should be known and accessible at the time.
3. **No qualifiers for quashed/withdrawn DVOs.** When assessing who is a fit and proper person to hold a licence, there doesn't appear to have any exemption for quashed or withdrawn DVOs—the idea that a restriction/punishment can be maintained long-term on the basis of unsubstantiated or withdrawn accusations is fundamentally unfair.

In summary it's my opinion that the flawed wording in this bill has serious implications for fundamental principles of freedom of association, fairness and the rule of law, and I believe it's important that the areas above be re-worked to achieve the intent of the policy objectives without violating these principles.

My details:

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For your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Carl Graff