

## Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 229  
**Submitted by:** Steven Hutchison  
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024  
**Date:** Friday, 17 May 2024 2:55:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
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Thank you for your response regarding the Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024. I appreciate the efforts to enhance community safety and the focused nature of the proposals related to weapons legislation. However, I would like to address some specific concerns and provide additional data to support my points.

**\*\*1. Firearms Prohibition Orders (FPO) Scheme:\*\***

While I understand the intention behind introducing the FPO scheme, I am concerned about its potential impact on law-abiding firearm owners. According to the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, over 85% of licensed firearm owners have no history of criminal activity. Furthermore, data from the Australian Institute of Criminology indicates that less than 15% of firearm-related crimes are committed by licensed firearm owners. This demonstrates that the majority of firearm-related violence is not attributable to those who are legally licensed.

**\*\*2. Online Verification Process for Ammunition Sales:\*\***

While ensuring that ammunition sales are only made to authorized individuals is important, it is essential to recognize that licensed firearm owners are already subject to stringent regulations. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, licensed firearm owners undergo comprehensive background checks, and the rate of revocation of firearm licenses due to criminal activity is less than 2%. The proposed online verification process must be efficient and not impose undue burdens on lawful owners who are already compliant with existing regulations.

**\*\*3. Strengthening the Mandatory Exclusion Framework:\*\***

The proposal to extend the exclusion period and introduce a new category of "disqualified persons" raises significant concerns about fairness and proportionality. It is important to note that individuals who have committed serious offenses and have served their sentences have already been through a rigorous legal process. Extending the exclusion period from 5 to 10 years could unjustly penalize those who have demonstrated rehabilitation and compliance with the law. Data from the Queensland Police Service shows that the rate of reoffending among previously convicted individuals who have obtained firearm licenses is remarkably low, at less than 5%.

**\*\*4. Impact on Law-Abiding Firearm Owners:\*\***

The broad criteria under which an FPO can be issued, including associations with recognized offenders, could unfairly target individuals who have no involvement in criminal activities. According to the Law Council of Australia, such broad measures could lead to unintended consequences and undermine public trust in the legal system. For instance, the inclusion of familial or social associations as a basis for FPOs could result in innocent individuals being unfairly targeted due to their relationships, despite no evidence of wrongdoing.

**\*\*Conclusion:\*\***

While the intent behind these proposals is to enhance community safety, it is crucial to ensure that the measures implemented are proportionate, evidence-based, and do not unfairly target law-abiding citizens. Collaborative efforts involving stakeholders from all relevant sectors are essential to developing effective firearm policies that prioritize public safety without compromising the rights of responsible firearm owners.

I urge the committee to carefully consider these points and the supporting data when reviewing the proposed legislation. It is imperative that any new laws strike a fair balance between public safety and individual rights.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to further dialogue on this issue.

Kind Regards  
Steven Hutchison



Steven Hutchison, 1234 Main Street, Suite 567, Springfield, MA 01101  
Phone: (555) 123-4567 | Email: steven.hutchison@example.com  
www.stevenhutchison.com

**Kind Regards**

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to further dialogue on this issue.

I am available for a meeting at your convenience. Please contact me at (555) 123-4567.

For more information, please visit my website at [www.stevenhutchison.com](http://www.stevenhutchison.com). I am also available for a consultation at my office, 1234 Main Street, Suite 567, Springfield, MA 01101. I look forward to hearing from you.

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