

Criminal Code (Defence of Dwellings and Other Premises—Castle Law) Amendment Bill 2026

Submission No: 003

Submission By: National Civic Council (Queensland Branch)

Publication: Making the submission and your name public

The National Civic Council is a values-driven Australian movement committed to forming informed citizens, strengthening communities, and advancing the common good. Drawing on a long legacy of civic engagement, it supports initiatives that promote human dignity, solidarity, subsidiarity, freedom of conscience, and social responsibility. Through education, public debate, cultural formation, and leadership development, the Council helps equip Australians to engage thoughtfully in social and political life. The NCC has published NewsWeekly.com.au for over 80 years.

The National Civic Council's Queensland branch fully supports the Criminal Code (Defence of Dwellings and Other Premises—Castle Law) Amendment Bill 2026 and recommends that the committee of inquiry support its passage.

The law serves not only to punish wrongdoing, but also to teach and to deter. It helps define clear moral and legal boundaries, provides justice where possible for victims, and sets consequences for offenders.

In light of the deeply concerning rise in violent home invasions, stronger legal protections are needed. At present, would-be intruders are not deterred to the extent they should be, and many ordinary citizens lack confidence in their rights to defend themselves, their loved ones, and their property.

The proposed new section 267 of the Criminal Code strikes an appropriate balance. It would provide greater confidence to the public while strengthening deterrence against unlawful intrusions.

For these reasons, we recommend that Parliament pass the bill.