

Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Bill 2026

Submission No: 182

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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing as a licensed, law-abiding firearm owner and resident of Australia to express my strong opposition to certain aspects of the proposed firearms legislation contained within (or associated with) this Bill.

As a compliant holder of a valid firearms licence, I have always adhered strictly to Australia's stringent firearms laws. I have never engaged in any criminal activity, nor do I support extremism, antisemitism, or any form of hatred or violence. I am not affiliated with any extremist groups, nor have I ever committed acts of violence, threatened public safety, or shown disloyalty to this country. I chose to live in Australia because I value its freedoms, democratic principles, and way of life.

I am deeply concerned that elements of this legislation encroach upon the rights of responsible, licensed firearm owners while failing to effectively address the genuine risks posed by those who intend harm. Far from enhancing public safety as claimed, aspects of the Bill—such as the establishment of a national gun buyback scheme, tightened import controls, and enhanced background checking regimes—appear to disproportionately target and penalise law-abiding citizens. In doing so, they risk reducing the capacity of ordinary Australians to defend themselves and their families, while doing little to prevent firearms from reaching prohibited individuals or criminal elements.

Recent events highlight what I perceive as troubling inconsistencies in enforcement and application of the law. In the past few days, there have been significant pro-Palestine demonstrations in major cities, some of which reportedly involved disorder or clashes with police. Yet these incidents appear to have attracted limited decisive intervention or long-term consequences for participants. In stark contrast, I am certain that any comparable public disorder involving licensed firearm owners would result in immediate licence revocations, prosecutions, and severe penalties. This apparent double standard raises serious questions about impartiality and priorities in maintaining public order.

I firmly believe that effective public safety policy should focus on targeting those who pose real threats—such as individuals with extremist ideologies or criminal intent—rather than imposing broader restrictions on those who have demonstrated a lifetime of compliance and responsibility. Measures that further erode the rights of law-abiding citizens risk fostering resentment, division, and a perception that government is prioritising political considerations over the equitable application of justice.

Australia is witnessing concerning trends in social cohesion and governance. Legislation of this nature, if perceived as overreach, only contributes to that erosion. While I will, of course, comply with any lawful requirements that result from this Bill, I urge the Committee to carefully reconsider provisions that impact licensed firearm owners. True security is achieved by enforcing existing laws rigorously against genuine threats, not by expanding controls over those who pose no risk.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission and for considering the perspectives of responsible firearm owners.