

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

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Good evening,

My name is Anthony Jones. I have been a lifelong shooter, hunter and firearms enthusiast. I have been an active member of the Qld Military Rifle Club for the last 15 years in both the rifle and pistol sections of the club. I have held a firearms license for the last 25 years.

Personally I applaud the Qld LNP government for not bowing to the pressure applied to them by their federal counterparts, the federal labor government and the media.

Having had a look through the draft summary I can see no major problem with the proposed firearms legislation or the anti hate speech legislation.

For too long firearm owners have been vilified as potential mass murderers, criminals and potential threats to the greater public in this country. We hear, ad nauseum, the phrase - evidence based policy - yet we see none of it in any shape or form. If evidence based policy were a thing, we would all be driving cars speed limited to 60km/hr.

We are not potential threats to safety, we are hunters, sports people, and enthusiasts who enjoy our past times and hobbies that bring a huge amount of revenue to communities, state and federal governments, and businesses catering to our needs and requirements. Everything from the local gun shop, to accommodation and supermarkets in regional areas benefit from the money we spend. The retailers and fitters of camping and specialty off road products, fuel stations, taxidermists, and the list goes on and on.

We see garish headlines about 28,000 licensed gun owners in certain parts of the state, like it is a crime to own a gun legally. Headlines specifically designed to scare the hell out of people. The media makes us out as if we are dangerous, when the reality is we aren't, and the folk that the press should be worried about are the thieves, rapists and drug dealers that constantly beset our society. We have the Greens publishing the locations of gun owners in the media and on their website. It's hard enough to keep our firearms from being stolen without some halfwit tree hugger trying to get a seal clap and placing our property at risk of theft.

We, the firearm owners of Australia, are the custodians of history. From a club dedicated to the use of antique - and make no mistake, they are antique firearms, used by military formations

between 1890 and 1955 before the switch to automatic and semi automatic rifles, to the man or woman that inherits their father or grandfather's rifle or shotgun. My grandfather had a Browning A5 shotgun. A beautiful piece of craftsmanship he used as a dairy farmer to control foxes and wild dogs. The only thing I ever wanted from him when he passed was that shot gun. The laws enacted after Port Arthur stopped that as it was a semi automatic. He bought it in the 50's from his cousin who decided to try clay pigeon shooting and decided it was too expensive.

The 30/30 Winchester lever action carbine in my personal gun safe belonged to a family friend. A lovely man, I remember for his jokes and tales, fishing and camping trips and the rifle he gave to me. I pick it up and rack the lever and I can still hear his voice and the sound of his laughter. He died of cancer in 2006.

When the Bondi shooting occurred, when any shooting occurs, I literally pray - "please don't be a licensed firearm owner". Because sooner or later some politician or media outlet or "advocate" will make the statement - we need fewer guns in the community to increase public safety.

That ladies and gentlemen is a blatant lie. The places with the highest instances of firearms crime in the United States are places with, surprisingly, extremely harsh and prohibitive gun laws.

I say this prayer because I don't want to be punished for the actions of someone else, because I have literally have thousands of dollars invested in a sport and a hobby that I am passionate about.

When a drunk driver gets into a car and kills someone, society does not call for the Mazda 3, or the Series 5 BMW, or the Nissan Skyline to be banned as a danger to the public. Not to mention, motor vehicles kill so many more people than firearms do in this country and have done so consistently for the last 50 years. If we took the much touted evidence based policy route, we'd all be walking and we'd all own machine guns. They are safer to operate than motor vehicles according to the data available through the ABS.

In closing, I would once again like to applaud the Qld LNP government for their decision to remain aloof from the federal government's horrendous policy and leave you with the following thoughts.

Hate and violence have no place in our communities. Those that perpetuate such should be removed, whether that be by sending them to jail, deporting them, or some other method.

There is no place for ideology, religion or groups that push an agenda of violence, fear, racism or intimidation in Queensland.

There is definitively no place for those with zero respect or regard for human life. People who view others of different race, colour or creed as inferior to themselves. We don't need the drama, the hassle or the problems that these people create no matter where they are from, here or elsewhere.

There has been a huge amount of column inches devoted to social cohesion in the last 2 months, but there will be none of that as long as people follow hate filled ideologies. Rip them root and branch from this state and cast them out and leave the law abiding citizens of this state to their passions and past times.

Regards,

Anthony(Tony) W. Jones

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