



## The Queensland Police Commissioned Officers' Union

Registered under the *Industrial Relations Act 1999*

'85 years strong'

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LEGAL AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY  
SAFETY COMMITTEE

28 September 2016

Inquiry Secretary  
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000  
(Email – [lasc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:lasc@parliament.qld.gov.au))

Dear Mr Furner MP

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission in regards to the *Serious and Organised Crime Legislation Amendment Bill 2016*.

On behalf of the Queensland Police Commissioned Officers' Union (QPCOUE) the following is our submission regarding the above Bill:

- **Section 60A** – There is a higher risk of errors and mistakes being made during enforcement. It also appears that a much higher level of IT support will be needed and there is a need for increased safeguards. The new section would appear to allow the availability of more legal defenses.

There is also concern for the greater level of complexity and increase in time associated with enforcement.

- **Section 60B** – The QPCOUE has a number of concerns. (a) It is noted that an applicant is limited to a Police Officer at the ranks of Sergeant and above. There also does not appear to be a 'licensed premises' civil court based application process and also concerns about the difficulty in gather evidence of 'disorderly activity' occurring on premises limited by 6 months to 2 years.

(b) The issue of the civil court based application process for orders over seven days.

(c) It is court administered and not administered by Police (such as the case with Western Australia).

- **Mandatory sentencing VLAD** – The QPCOUE has concerns that the mandatory sentencing period is only for seven years. The QPCOUE would seek to have the Commissioner of Police retained to determine the value of the benefit to QPS to remove mandatory sentencing component.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to comment on this Bill and this Union hopes you may consider our submission to allow police to do their operational functions without impediment.

Kind regards

*for*   
Brian Wilkins  
PRESIDENT