

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO GAME AND FERAL ANIMAL LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CONSERVATION HUNTING) BILL 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2 July 2025

An Upper House inquiry has been established to examine the Game and Feral Animal Legislation Amendment (Conservation Hunting) Bill 2025, a private members' bill introduced by the Hon Robert Borsak MLC of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers party.

The bill proposes a number of amendments to the *Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002*, including to abolish the Game and Pest Management Advisory Board and replace it with the Conservation Hunting Authority; recognise and make provision for a right to hunt; and abolish restricted game hunting licences and replace those licences with conservation hunting licences.

The bill also seeks to amend laws concerning management of Crown lands to establish that Crown land is available for hunting, however the bill also provides that hunting is not to be permitted in national parks.

The Committee Chair, the Hon Emily Suvaal MLC, acknowledged that there is a range of views on the bill, noting that: "This inquiry will ensure that stakeholder issues and concerns about the proposed legislation can be adequately considered and addressed by the House when debate resumes on the bill".

Stakeholders can make submissions until 4 August 2025 by lodging a submission via the <u>committee's</u> <u>website</u>. The committee will then hold a hearing on a date to be determined. The committee is due to report by 10 October 2025.

Further information, including the inquiry terms of reference and the bill, can be found on the committee's website.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Emily Suvaal, MLC, on (02) 9230 2731