

**INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE FIREARMS AND
WEAPONS LEGISLATION (CRIMINAL USE) BILL 2020**

Name: Mr John Leslie

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John Leslie

6 May 2020

The Hon. Robert Borsak, MLC
Shooters and Fishers Party
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY. 2000

Dear Robert,

I have just read the Firearms and Weapons Legislation amendment (Criminal use) Bill 2020 and I am appalled, it should be called the "Beijing Bill 2020" as it is something the Chinese Government would be proud of. Why is (Criminal use) in brackets, is it an afterthought or is it intended to re-assure the general public.

Not being a Lawyer I am struggling with the content in this new Legislation however in my opinion there are some serious flaws which to me are very obvious. The first one is on the front page of the 2020 amendment and states "and for other purposes" this is about as open ended as it gets.

Apparently the new buzz word is precursors it seems that anything from nuts and bolts to electronics is a precursor, just changing the sights on your rifle could be interpreted as a breach of the act.

Like many other handy persons I have many containers of nuts, bolts, screws, washers, springs etc as well as a large amount of metal off-cuts, potentially thousands of precursors.

If a friend comes into my garage and asks if he can drill a hole into a piece of metal do I have to get him to sign a Statutory Declaration stating that he is not making a precursor?

There is an old saying which unfortunately is out dated stating "If you have done nothing wrong you have nothing to be afraid of"

Moving on to a subject close to my heart "spearguns". Being a Life Member of the Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen's Association and The Australian Underwater Federation I am concerned about there being no mention whatsoever about speargun parts.

A large number of spear fisher persons make their own spearguns and this extends to making their own triggers and trigger mechanisms The shapes of these triggers are sometimes copied from pistols or rifles and generally made out of stainless steel or brass, factory made spearguns also have similar triggers and pistol grip handles, especially imported ones.

Anyone with a box of spear gun parts at his residence could be prosecuted for having precursor parts for illegal firearm manufacture .

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If this legislation is approved in its current form it could lead to the banning of spearguns and I would call it "Banning by Stealth" the USFA Management is aware of this and is discussing an official response.

P.S. I have finally obtained my power head permit after two years of trying, Steve Larsson may be interested.

Yours faithfully,

John Leslie