

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 11 August 2020

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Partially  
Confidential

Dear Ministers,

I am writing to you as a senior correspondent for a prominent firearms and shooting magazine publisher as well as a Law Abiding Firearms' Owner. I have significant concerns over the *Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020* currently before the NSW Parliament.

The listing of 'computer software and plans' as firearms precursors is troublesome for me in my role as a student, researcher and historian of firearms. Having access to documents, diagrams, plans and specifications of firearms is essential for me to carry out my occupation.

Having complete and accurate information of the method of operation and maintenance of firearms is critical to using them correctly and safely. As written, this proposed bill could easily led to misinterpretation, especially when vague and misleading phrases such as 'reasonable grounds' are used. Also, the proposed legislation could have the effect of making any published material on firearms and their maintenance a precursor to illegal activity.

Additionally, the Bill does not seem to discriminate between Law Abiding Firearms' Owners (LAFOs) and criminals and, as such, needs to specify that LAFOs who have a legitimate need to modify or make a part for their registered firearm not be captured by this bill. Furthermore, the possession of everyday items or hardware by LAFOs should not be an offence as is proposed in this bill.

I hope these comments will help in improving the understanding of parliamentarians and law enforcement authorities that LAFOs are not criminals.

Yours sincerely,