

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 10 August 2020

Partially
Confidential

Submission from

SSAA N.S.W. Member

in response to the draft Bill:

Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020

The Discipline of shooting I am interested in is BENCHREST Shooting and have been involved in since 1978 some 42 years, competing in Club Competition, State Championships, National Championships and involved in International Competition.

I understand or think I understand the reason behind this Bill, to make it an offence to take part in the manufacture of a Firearm or parts that includes possession of a Firearm precursor by persons who are not registered gunsmiths. I feel this has been poorly researched and will have consequences with the competitions that I compete in that require the utmost accuracy and once again will only affect the law abiding shooters who are regulated and follow the Laws as they stand.

As a law abiding licensed shooter I support and applaud the strengthening of penalties on those manufacturing of illicit firearms and the misuse of a firearm. There should be provisions in this Bill to allow shooters to repair, modify, reassemble or replace parts or part of their firearm providing they are within the Law and not shorten the firearm to an illegal length or turn it into an automatic or any modification that would make the firearm illegal or prohibited.

The rifles I use in competition are custom made to fit the rules for the disciplines I compete in have been chambered, modified or assembled in house. Some parts were purchased overseas or locally sourced and worked on in house to gain the utmost in accuracy that can be obtained. The competitions I compete in are decided by the smallest of margins .0001 thousands of an inch. Any modifications carried out are solely to improve the accuracy that can't be obtained from commercial and time constraints that commercial Gunsmiths have.

I am concerned about the "Firearm Precursor" or Definitions. This could be interpreted as barrels, chambered and/or screwed, barrel blanks, triggers, reamers, stocks, springs, tuners etc. Also magazines, books, reference manuals, and computer download and reference notes, printouts and discs, saved links to web sites that are connected to the type of shooting I do will only make me a criminal.

If this Bill is passed in the form as it is now it would impact on me personally, target shooting is my recreation and hobby to be able to assemble "manufacture" the firearms I use gives me great pleasure and satisfaction not to mention the expense I have outlaid to get to this point.

Once again this Bill will only affect the Law Abiding Licensed Shooter and have no effect on the people that this Bill is aimed at. I have no problem with the Gun Laws as they stand. We the Licensed shooters who do the right thing have to go to great lengths to actually own and store our firearms, and obtain the components we use. To compete overseas is quite arduous, with all the regulations and permits you need to obtain and follow just to get there before you start to compete.

In my opinion the people proposing this Bill have no idea what the Law Abiding citizen (shooter) has to do to own and maintain a competition firearm and I applaud, congratulate the SSAA for bringing this to the attention of the members.

10th August, 2020