



## **LNP Firearms Policy**

Please be assured that the LNP supports responsible gun ownership and therefore supports law abiding, licensed gun holders.

During the last parliamentary sitting week of this term, the parliament debated the Community Safety Bill. During the debate, as the Shadow Minister for Police and Community Safety, I tabled amendments to increase the maximum penalty from 10 to 14 years for stealing firearms or ammunition and to create a new offence to target criminals who commit 'drive-by shootings' which have become more commonplace in Queensland. These amendments were designed to ensure the focus is on criminals who steal and unlawfully use guns.

The Labor government cut the debate short and in doing so prevented the LNP from moving the amendments. They were, however, tabled so they are on the public record. Cutting the debate short also denied many members of the opposition the ability to speak on the bill.

Furthermore, the LNP is aware that there are technical issues affecting the Weapons Licensing system. Should the LNP be given the opportunity to govern at the next election investigations into the issues will be conducted.

The LNP commits to ongoing consultation with the SSAA Queensland, and discussing the issues faced by its members.

*Provided by Shadow Minister for Police and Community Safety Dan Purdie*



## **One Nation's Firearms Policy**

### FIREARMS POLICY – SAFE, FAIR AND RESPONSIBLE

One Nation strongly supports the ability to own and use firearms lawfully and responsibly. We do not consider that owning a firearm, in itself, is wrong or criminal.

One Nation supports Australians participating in sports involving firearms, to use firearms for hunting or recreational shooting, to collect antique and historically significant firearms, and to use firearms in rural areas for pest and stock management. The Queensland Government is a signatory to the latest National Firearms Agreement (NFA). One Nation considers the NFA to be deeply flawed in that it places unnecessary and draconian restrictions on law-abiding people who legitimately own and use firearms. We consider that stakeholder and public consultation for the current NFA did not effectively include sports and recreational shooters.

One Nation seeks to end discrimination against legitimate firearms owners and users, ensure all stakeholders are fairly consulted in the development of firearms laws and regulations, and make existing laws fairer. We also seek to improve community safety by cracking down on illegal firearms use, with stronger penalties if firearms are used in committing crimes.

### OUR POLICIES

#### ***Amnesty***

One Nation will seek to provide firearm owners with genuinely safe, state-sponsored mechanisms to voluntarily surrender firearms by:

- legislating a firearms amnesty for any person who wishes to surrender a firearm, or register an unregistered firearm; and
- examining and reviewing the benefits of a new voluntary firearms buy-back program, remunerating market value to remove unwanted and unregistered firearms out of the community.

#### ***Legislative and regulatory reform***

Queensland laws and regulations around firearms appear to be designed to strongly discourage legitimate firearm ownership with heavy costs and excessive complexity. In real consultation with affected stakeholders and individuals, One Nation will seek to undertake a range of reforms by:

- streamlining the firearms licence system;
- standardising all firearms licences to 10 years before requiring renewal, including for Category H firearms;

- supporting realistic interpretations of the ‘genuine reasons’ required to access Category C,D and H firearms; and
- supporting the use of firearm noise-suppression devices under Category R for pest and stock management in rural settings, and for hunting and feral animal management, to protect against hearing loss for firearms users.

***National Firearms Agreement (NFA) review***

One Nation will seek to leverage its influence in state and federal parliaments to advocate a review of the National Firearms Agreement (NFA), primarily to promote uniform rules and regulations across Australian states and territories.

***Combatting discrimination and promoting responsibility***

Lawful ownership and use of firearms should not be subject to any form of state-sanctioned discrimination. One Nation will combat this discrimination and promote responsible firearm ownership by:

- opposing the requirement for genuine antique or historically significant firearms to be registered as it provides no public safety benefit;
- amending laws and regulations which allow firearms to be banned based on their appearance, which is unrelated to public safety; and
- facilitating the participation of minors and juniors under 16 in supervised competition and recreational shooting.

***Stronger penalties for unlawful firearm use***

One Nation supports lawful and responsible firearm ownership and use, but also supports much stronger laws and penalties around unlawful firearm possession and use – especially in the commission of crimes. We will crack down on this by:

- supporting legislation that increases penalties for crimes in which a firearm has been brandished or used; and
- supporting stronger border controls and tougher penalties for illegal weapons trafficking.

*One Nation will announce further information and associated policies relating to Queensland over the course of the election period.*



## **Katter's Australian Party**

State government policies that recognise the difference between responsible firearm owners and those who misuse or illegally obtain firearms.

Legislation based on facts, evidence and genuine consultation with law-abiding firearms users, rather than feelings, 'optics' or to be seen to be 'doing something'. An improved, electronic state-based firearms licensing system and firearm register; not a flawed and expensive national firearm register.

Legislation that separates paintball guns, gel blasters, and other 'non-firearms' (including antiques and pellet guns) from 'proper' firearms.

Establishment of hunting on suitable Crown Land, subject to proper oversight and management – much like the highly successful 'R' Licence system in NSW. Recognition that licensed firearms owners are among the most responsible and law-abiding people in the community and should be treated as such.

KAP strongly supports legitimate firearms users, regardless of whether they are primary producers, hunters, recreational shooters, target shooters, collectors, or occupational users.

Licensed firearm owners in Queensland are among the most responsible, law-abiding citizens who have negotiated the complex and stringent suitability requirements mandated by the state's Weapons Licensing Branch. Some examples of the challenges facing legitimate firearm owners are:

- Despite their compliance, law-abiding firearm owners are often unfairly blamed by some political parties and media outlets for gun related criminal conduct. They face continual government scrutiny and regulatory changes, particularly in the wake of high-profile incidents, which unjustly penalise legitimate firearm users and fail to address the real sources of criminal firearm misuse.
- Primary producers and sports shooters are amongst those most significantly impacted by the stringent weapons licensing regulations in Queensland.
- The Queensland Police Service Weapons Licensing Branch operates under an outdated and inefficient system, with insufficient resources.

In addition to supporting licenced firearm owners to navigate the above challenges, KAP opposes the proposal of a national firearm register. This will cost hundreds of millions of dollars and is unnecessary. Given the existing inefficiencies at the state level, KAP believe that improving the Queensland state firearm registry system's efficiency and accuracy is a far more effective solution than implementing a new national register, which will only inherit the existing issues of the current Queensland registry.

*Authorised by S.Major for Katter's Australian Party, 2/321 Sturt Street, Townsville City, QLD 4810*