

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIREARMS AMENDMENT BILL 2026

(Amendments and New Clauses to be proposed in Committee by KATHERINE COPSEY)

1. Clause 1, after line 6 insert—
 - "(ia) to restrict the number of firearms that a licence holder may possess, carry or use; and".
2. Clause 1, after line 8 insert—
 - "(iia) to abolish junior licences; and".

NEW CLAUSES

3. Insert the following New Part after Part 2—

'Part 2A—Amendments relating to firearm limits

6A Conditions applying to longarm licences

In section 14(1)(a), (2)(a), (3)(a), (4)(a) and (5)(a) of the Principal Act, for "items 1, 2 and 3" **substitute** "items 1, 2, 3 and 5".

6B Conditions applying to handgun licences

In section 16(1)(a) of the Principal Act, for "items 1, 2 and 3" **substitute** "items 1, 2, 3 and 5".

6C General discretion of Chief Commissioner to refuse a longarm or handgun licence

(1) After section 17(1)(ba) of the Principal Act **insert**—

"(bb) if the applicant has not demonstrated a genuine need, supported by formal and verifiable evidence, to possess, carry or use each firearm that the applicant intends to possess, carry or use; or

(bc) if the applicant—

- (i) is a natural person; and
- (ii) intends to possess, carry or use more than 3 firearms; and
- (iii) has not demonstrated a compelling need for each firearm that the applicant intends to possess, carry or use above that limit; or

(bd) if the applicant—

- (i) is a natural person; and
- (ii) intends to possess, carry or use more than 10 firearms; and

- (iii) has not demonstrated an exceptional need for each firearm that the applicant intends to possess, carry or use above that limit; or".

(2) After section 17(1) of the Principal Act **insert**—

"(2) In this section—

compelling need means a need connected with any of the following—

- (a) primary production;
- (b) sport or target shooting;
- (c) professional hunting."

6D Schedule 1 amended

After item 4 of Schedule 1 to the Principal Act **insert**—

"5 The holder of the licence must not possess, carry or use more than the following number of firearms unless otherwise permitted under this Act—

- (a) if the holder possesses, carries or uses firearms for the purposes of primary production, sport or target shooting or professional hunting—10 firearms;
- (b) if paragraph (a) does not apply—3 firearms."

NEW CLAUSES

4. Insert the following New Part after Part 3—

'Part 3A—Amendments relating to junior licences

10A Definitions

In section 3(1) of the Principal Act, the definitions of *junior handgun target shooting licence* and *junior licence* are **repealed**.

10B Reasons for applying for a longarm licence, category C

(1) In section 11(1)(a) of Principal Act—

- (a) in subparagraph (iv), for "regulations;" **substitute** "regulations; and";
- (b) subparagraph (v) is **repealed**.

(2) In section 11(2) of the Principal Act—

- (a) in paragraph (d), for "purpose;" **substitute** "purpose.";
- (b) paragraph (e) is **repealed**.

10C Issue of handgun licences for general category handguns

(1) In section 15(1) of the Principal Act—

- (a) in paragraph (c), for "regulations;" **substitute** "regulations.";

(b) paragraph (d) is **repealed**.

(2) In section 15(2) of the Principal Act—

(a) in paragraph (c), for "purpose;" **substitute** "purpose.";

(b) paragraph (d) is **repealed**.

10D Division 5 of Part 2 repealed

Division 5 of Part 2 of the Principal Act is **repealed**.

10E Offence not to comply with licence conditions

In section 36(4) of the Principal Act, **omit** "a junior licence,".

10F Duration of licences

(1) In section 39(1) of the Principal Act, **omit** "or a junior licence".

(2) Section 39(3) of the Principal Act is **repealed**.

10G Section 39A repealed

Section 39A of the Principal Act is **repealed**.

10H Chief Commissioner to notify approved handgun target shooting club or employer of certain events

Section 52AA(2)(d) of the Principal Act is **repealed**.

10I Persons who are exempt from the Part

In section 54(1A) of the Principal Act—

(a) in paragraph (a), for "12 years" **substitute** "18 years";

(b) in paragraph (d)—

(i) **omit** "if the person receiving instruction is of or over the age of 18 years,";

(ii) for "section 15(1); and" **substitute** "section 15(1).";

(c) paragraph (e) is **repealed**.

10J Provisional general category handgun licences

For section 58A(2)(c) of the Principal Act **substitute**—

"(c) unless the applicant is of or over the age of 18 years; or".

10K Approved handgun target shooting clubs—Power to endorse applications for general category handgun licences

In section 123F(1) of the Principal Act, **omit** "or section 18(5)".

10L Schedule 2 amended

In Schedule 2 to the Principal Act, items 2(3) and 4 are **repealed**.

10M Schedule 3 amended

In Schedule 3 to the Principal Act—

(a) item 5B is **repealed**;

(b) in item 6A, for "16 years" **substitute** "18 years".'.

5. Clause 23, omit this clause.
6. Clause 36, omit this clause.

AMENDMENT OF LONG TITLE

7. Long title, after "firearm prohibition order scheme," insert "to restrict the number of firearms that a licence holder may possess, carry or use,".
8. Long title, after "categorisation of firearms," insert "to abolish junior licences,".