



Sporting Shooters Association of Australia  
Glenorchy Incorporated



Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management  
- by email to: [strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au](mailto:strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au)

**Submission re Firearms Amendment (Community Safety) Bill 2023**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The Club broadly supports the Bill, noting that SSAA Tasmania will likely make a formal submission on its own account.

I would like to raise one issue which specifically affects a number of our members with limited mobility and some physical restrictions. These active members require varying degrees of assistance from support persons to facilitate their participation in our sport. For example, at the range a wheelchair-bound shooter on the line may need magazines reloaded and handed forward (under the strict supervision of the range officer). They may need assistance in handling cased firearms when leaving their vehicle upon entering the range; again when packing up.

Outside the range assistance may be required to remove firearms and ammunition from safe storage into locked containers for transport to and from the range. Further assistance may be required in handling purchased ammunition. No doubt there are other routine tasks involving handling firearms and ammunition for which some kind of help may be required or desirable.

On this basis, would you please consider extending the proposed amendments to section 6 of the Act (clause 5 of the Bill) to allow the same protections for carers as are proposed for unlicensed public servants who are required to deal with firearms as part of their job description. This would provide comfort and necessary legal protection to those carers, and some equity to our members requiring this support.

Please contact me (direct at [REDACTED]) if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

John McDonald OAM  
President  
8<sup>th</sup> March 2023