

FIREARM LAW REFORM

Petition

HON DR BRIAN WALKER (East Metropolitan) [2.11 pm]: I present an e-petition containing 5 750 signatures couched in the following terms —

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled. We the undersigned

Urge the Western Australian Parliament to consider the following proposals for the ongoing firearm law reform in Western Australia: - License the shooter, not the individual firearms, in line with other states in Australia. - Provide a detailed explanation of how the mental health checks are expected to work, including how it will fit into a mental health system that is already under strain, who will pay for it, and how regional shooters will be accommodated. - No changes to the existing property letter system without consultation with the wider body of shooters. - No calibre bans without consultation with the wider body of shooters. As responsible and legal firearm owners, we believe that these proposals are crucial to maintaining the rights of legitimate firearms owners while addressing the concerns of the wider community. The current proposals will unfairly impact individuals like ourselves, preventing us from pursuing our passions while posing little risk to the wider community. Licensing the shooter instead of the individual firearms is in line with other states in Australia and will simplify the current system while maintaining safety measures. We request that a permit-to-acquire system is considered to address any concerns around safety. We also request a detailed explanation of how the proposed mental health checks will be implemented and who will be responsible for paying for them. As the mental health system is already under significant strain, it is essential to consider how these checks will be incorporated into the system and how regional shooters will be accommodated. We request that any changes to the existing property letter system be made only after consultation with the wider body of shooters, not just a single club or industry body. This will ensure that the voices of all legitimate firearms owners are heard and considered. Finally, we request that no more calibre bans are implemented without consultation with the wider body of shooters. Any changes to firearm legislation must consider the impact on legitimate firearms owners and address the concerns of the community. We urge the Western Australian Parliament to consider these proposals and take them into account when considering the ongoing firearm law reform in Western Australia.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper 2405.]