



Judy Spence MP
Member for Mount Gravatt



**Queensland
Government**

Office of the
**Minister for Police and
Corrective Services**

Ref: 6670 F3 JK

25 SEP 2007

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I am writing to provide a response to petition number 687-06 seeking a ban on the sale and possession of slingshots. The Honourable Kerry Shine MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister Assisting the Premier in Western Queensland, forwarded the petition to me for response.

The *Weapons Act 1990* (the Act) is currently being reviewed to identify any proposed amendments needed to maintain the efficient and effective operation of the Act. The Queensland Police Service is preparing a list of possible amendments for consideration by a Review Committee. Mr John English MP, Member for Redlands has agreed to chair the Review Committee on my behalf. The Review Committee will also include Ms Carolyn Male MP, Member for Glass House, nominated members of my office, and representatives of the:

- Police Service's Weapons Licensing Branch and Legislation Development Unit;
- Department of the Premier and Cabinet;
- Queensland Council for Civil Liberties;
- Queensland Rifle Association;
- Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Qld);
- Firearm Dealers' Association of Queensland;
- Queensland Shooting Association;
- Queensland Amateur Pistol Club;
- Arms Collectors Guild of Queensland Inc;
- Historical Arms Collectors Incorporated; and
- film ordinance industry.

The Review Committee will be asked to consult stakeholders and the public to identify any additional issues or suggested amendments such as the ban proposed by the petition.

As it is my intention that the review be limited to only those amendments considered necessary to maintain the efficient and effective operation of the Act, the Review Committee's terms of reference will not extend to developing or considering major policy initiatives.

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This Government will consider the Review Committee's recommendations when they become available in 2008.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Judy Spence MP
Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Sport