

Fraser Anning's Conservative National Party

Object fifteen

"The right to own firearms and use them in self-defence"

The right to protect yourself, your family and your property is an inalienable God-given right.

However, what this means is that you must have the capacity to do so and the only way to guarantee your ability to defend yourself against potentially stronger or more numerous assailants is possession of a firearm.

Throughout history, all genuinely free societies have accepted the right of law-abiding citizens to own a gun and all authoritarian governments have sought to disarm the population to remove the last potential check on their power.

When gun ownership ceases to be a right and becomes a privilege, it becomes something that the state can withhold on the whim of the ruling elite.

This link between firearm ownership and freedom was recognised in the English Bill of Rights of 1689 and the US Bill of Rights of 1776.

The right to own a gun is in fact the bellwether of freedom.

The Conservative Nationals are committed to defend your inalienable right to own a gun and to this end, we reject the 1996 gun laws and the national firearms agreement introduced by former Prime Minister Howard.

We believe that the state should licence the shooter not the firearm and that once in possession of a licence, the shooter should be able to buy or sell any firearms without any further permit or state involvement.

No reason should be required to apply for a firearms licence any more than is required to apply for a drivers licence.

We do not accept any necessity for registration of rifles or shotguns, with registration only to be required for pistols.

Semi-automatics would once again be legalised.

Children's toys such as air rifles, painball and airsoft should not require a licence of any kind.

We would allow property owners to again carry and use pistols on their own property as they see fit.

We would make membership lists for gun clubs legally exempt from requests for third parties to view other than with a warrant and we would abolish all minimum club attendance requirements for pistol clubs.

We would end all police firearms storage verification in the absence of probable cause, which are a waste of police manpower. Instead we would introduce a signed acknowledgement of the requirement for safe storage facilities for those purchasing their first firearm.

We will transfer responsibility for processing applications for firearms licensing from Queensland Police to the Department of Transport, with the issuing of licences handled by Queensland Transport along with drivers licences, reducing costs and required police manpower.

We will introduce performance benchmarks for the dispatch of new and renewed licences within 30 days of application and recognise in law that receipt of an application for renewal of an expiring firearms extends licence validity until the receipt of the new firearms licence. (This will end bogus seizures of firearms held by licenced shooters whose licence renewals have been held up by weapons licencing branch incompetence.)

There will be increased accountability and transparency for firearms regulators under the Weapons Act to endure that powers are clearly defined in law and limited to specific situations to avoid arbitrary decision making.

We would otherwise revert to 1988 gun laws, with abolition of “mandatory sentencing” and the penalty for simple possession of a weapon not used in a crime by an unlicensed person again reduced to only a fine.

Concomitantly, we would introduce significantly increased penalties for theft of a firearm and double the penalty for any violent crime committed with a firearm.