



Minister for Police and
Minister for Corrective Services

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Your Ref: A559407

17/06/2020

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 21 May 2020 in relation to Petition 3326-20 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly regarding a request to reclassify suppressors from Category R weapons to Category A weapons.

I appreciate the petitioners' concerns and asked the Queensland Police Service (QPS) for advice in respect of this request.

Firstly, the QPS has confirmed that suppressors are classified as a Category R weapon pursuant to section 8 of the Weapons Categories Regulation 1997.

Secondly, while it is acknowledged that the use of suppressors may reduce the noise emitted by the discharge of a firearm, decisions around the reclassification of Category R weapons, such as suppressors, should be based first and foremost on community safety considerations. The Queensland Government will always put community safety first and will always listen to the advice of the QPS when it comes to the regulation of firearms. Relevantly, I am advised by the Queensland Police Service that the current regulations relating to suppressors prioritise community safety.

As the Queensland Government will not support a weakening of the state's firearms laws, the government also will not support the reclassification of suppressors as Category A weapons.

Further, I can advise that, to the best of my knowledge, at no point has the portrayal of suppressors in film or a video game been cited while considering the request to reclassify suppressors.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Ryan".

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP
**Minister for Police and
Minister for Corrective Services**