

1996

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

*Weapons (Amendment) Bill 1995*

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Amendment to be moved on behalf of the Government

Circulated by authority of

Gary Humphries MLA

Attorney-General

## **WEAPONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995**

### **Amendments to be moved by the Attorney-General**

#### **OUTLINE**

The purpose of this amendment is to clarify the nature of the approved reasons for which a natural person may hold a dangerous weapons licence authorising them to possess and use a silencer under the Weapons (Amendment) Bill 1995.

After consultation with the operational area responsible for the regulation of the Weapons Act 1991 it has become apparent that there is a need to tighten the draft clauses relating to the approved reasons for which a silencer may be held. It was not intended that these weapons be available to any person outside of those to whom paragraphs (1) (ha) and (na) of Clause 5 relate. The Bill as introduced does not adequately specify this relationship.

Section 5 of the Act already contains qualification relating to the approved reasons for requiring a dangerous weapon. Consistent with these qualifications this amendment inserts a new subsection (4A) in section 5 which has the effect of specifying that a silencer may only be held by employees or persons engaged by the RSPCA, CSIRO, prescribed research bodies or veterinary surgeons who require the use of a silencer in the course of their employment.

#### **NOTES ON CLAUSES**

**Clause 1** - Makes a formal amendment consequent on the proposed insertion of a paragraph (fa) in the Bill.

#### **Clause 2 - Insertion**

This clause inserts a new subsection 5 (4A) which limits the approved reasons for which a dangerous weapon that is a silencer may be required to those which are encompassed by proposed new paragraphs (1) (ha) and (na).