From:
 Bec Fog

 To:
 Todd Buttsworth

 Subject:
 FLR Submission

Date: Friday, 26 October 2018 10:45:51 PM

To the Secretary,

I am writing in reference to the Parliamentary Committee on Firearms Law Reform in Tasmania.

The existing laws were established following a mass shooting event in an attempt to prevent such an event recurring. The law places constraints on ability to procure arms, licensing, and where and under what circumstances such arms can be used. The current firearm laws are well recognised, well accepted and simple to understand. Tasmanians I talk to refer to our current laws with pride, especially against the backdrop of the firearms chaos in the United States.

I, as a clinical psychologist, wife and mother, do not wish for firearms to be made more accessible, nor do I have any wish for the existing laws to be softened or relaxed to allow access to firearms that make members of the public. There are no justifications imaginable for lawful use of such weapons that would satisfy me of the benefits gained against the significant risks softening the law would result in. If anything, my preference would be further strengthening of the current laws.

If current farming practices are unsustainable with the current laws, we must investigate better farming practices. A wealthy minority must not be permitted to trade public safety for personal gain.

Members of my family were present at the Port Arthur massacre. This issue is deeply personal for me. In addition, I have seen first hand that our mental health system is essentially broken, particularly for children, adolescences and in rural areas (Tasmania).

I hope that this committee finds that relaxation of the current laws is not justified.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Fogarty

Sent from my iPhone