

1999

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY

FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1999

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Amendment to be moved on behalf of the Government

Circulated by authority of
Gary Humphries MLA, Minister for Justice and Community Safety

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The Firearms (Amendment) Bill 1999 (the bill) amends the *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act) to facilitate participation in ACT shooting competitions by interstate and international competitors.

Proposed section 49A, inserted by clause 7 of the bill, will operate to authorise holders of temporary permits issued interstate to international shooters, to possess or use a firearm for the purpose of participating in an approved ACT shooting competition. This authorisation is expressed to be limited to the 'defined period'.

Proposed subsection 49A(5) provides that the 'defined period' is the period ending 3 months from arrival in the ACT or at *the expiry of the permit* (proposed paragraph 49A(5)(b)), whichever is the earlier.

The amendment to subsection 49A(5) omits the second leg of the definition contained in paragraph 49A(5)(b). This is because the paragraph is superfluous. Once a temporary permit granted interstate to an international visitor expires, the person to whom the permit was issued will no longer be the holder of a permit and, as a result, the person will no longer be a person to whom the provisions of section 49A apply.

There is, therefore, no need for subsection 49A(5) to make reference to the expiry of an interstate permit as bringing to an end the 'defined period', during which the holder of such a permit is authorised to possess and use a firearm in the ACT.