

**FIREARMS AMENDMENT BILL 2003**

*Second Reading*

Resumed from 10 November.

**HON NICK GRIFFITHS** (East Metropolitan - Minister for Housing and Works) [11.10 am]: First, I thank honourable members who have spoken in this debate. Members raised a number of issues that I will endeavour to deal with. Before I deal with the specific issues, I thank Hon Derrick Tomlinson for his very wholehearted support of the Bill.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: I just support the Bill.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I will not withdraw my wholehearted thanks to him. Hon Derrick Tomlinson has raised a number of issues, including the matter of replica antique firearms. I draw the attention of the House to a proposed amendment that I have caused to be placed on the notice paper. I will speak to that issue when we get to the committee stage. Hon Derrick Tomlinson provided an interesting account of the game of paintball. I thank him for his observations. I should endeavour to correct a misunderstanding in respect of the Kalgoorlie sittings. It was always the intention of the Government to only have Bills dealt with in the Kalgoorlie sittings that would not involve committee debates. The supplementary notice paper with amendments to this Bill came into being shortly before we travelled to Kalgoorlie for the sittings. Therefore, we were in a position in which the matter could not be proceeded past the second reading stage. I note that only 15 minutes were left by the time we got to the Bill in any event.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: It is a pity we did not pass it then.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: The unfortunate thing was that the amendments were posted on the notice paper, and they were worthwhile amendments. The reason Bills of a non-controversial nature that were not envisaged to have committee debates were brought on in Kalgoorlie was that an expense was involved in having staff attend. A number of Bills could have been dealt with, but that is the reason the Bill was dealt with in a particular way.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: I appreciate your explanation and thank you for it.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I thank Hon Derrick Tomlinson for that.

Hon John Fischer made reference to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services responding to a question raised in the other place by Hon Paul Omodei, the member for Warren-Blackwood. Hon John Fischer expressed a view about that exchange. I am advised that Hon Paul Omodei's question was in two parts. The first related to the pointing of a paintball gun at someone in a domestic situation. The second related to the pointing of a gun during the game of paintball. I am advised that the Minister for Police and Emergency Services' response to the first part of Hon Paul Omodei's question was correct, in that a paintball gun is like any other firearm and cannot be so pointed. In her response the minister did not specifically address the second part of the question. However, the Bill clearly allows the pointing of a paintball gun at another person when the game of paintball is played in the circumstances set out in the Bill. The proposition that Hon John Fischer raised in respect of the Minister for Police and Emergency Services' understanding of her Bill is disagreed with.

Hon John Fischer expressed concern that the Government, while claiming to have consulted with various stakeholders, had accepted the Council of Australian Governments' recommendation that, as he put it, would see the demise of sporting competitions in Australia involving the use of prohibited calibre firearms, particularly in respect of hand guns. I can advise the House and Hon John Fischer that the Premier wrote to the Prime Minister on three occasions - 15 May 2003, 1 July 2003 and 22 August 2003 - requesting that the Prime Minister reconsider the inclusion of International Practical Shooting Confederation Western Australian events as accredited events exempt from the 45 calibre hand gun prohibition. In each case the Prime Minister declined the Premier's request.

Hon Paddy Embry expressed concern at the length of time it had taken his son to include an additional firearm on his firearm licence. That is an administrative matter. I am advised that normally such a matter could be dealt with in no more than four weeks. In respect of the specific instance, as a result of the honourable member's observations, the matter has been referred to the officer in charge of the firearms branch. I am advised that officer will look into the matter and reply appropriately to Hon Paddy Embry.

Hon Robin Chapple raised a number of issues. I have just been handed a piece of paper that foreshadows he may be doing something about those issues in committee. Notwithstanding what is on the piece of paper that has been handed to me, he raised a number of other issues. He raised a concern about the requirement in the Bill for collectors to belong to an accredited society. He suggested that collectors could be required to attend at least one

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meeting per annum on the basis that the role of a collectors' society is partially to monitor whether individual members are complying with the strict storage requirements and are mentally fit to hold a collector's licence. That is not considered to be an appropriate course of action. Some members' firearm holdings, for example, may simply involve a family heirloom that has been passed down through generations. That does not seem to be practical. That is one example.

Again, I note the member's amendment from the mining and pastoral region. He would be aware that people living in relatively remote areas can have difficulties in attending meetings. It may not theoretically sound particularly onerous to attend one meeting a year. The meetings of societies may not be frequent in number. It may be difficult for a person living in a remote part of the State to travel to them.

Hon Robin Chapple: You are dealing with collectors.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I appreciate that. I do not want to discriminate against collectors who live in remote parts of the State; in particular, I do not want to discriminate against collectors who are the electors of the honourable member. In any event, the role of collectors' societies is not that of monitoring.

Hon Robin Chapple raised the issue of written character references being provided to shooting clubs or associations by new members. He suggested that it should be a requirement. This matter was considered by an industry working party, which formed the view that to make this mandatory would not be appropriate, as there were situations, particularly in country areas, in which a new applicant was well known to the club and its members. Therefore, notwithstanding that it is a worthy idea, it was decided during the consultation process not to go down that path.

Hon Robin Chapple: My concern is not necessarily country members but those members of the metropolitan region who are using country systems.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I do not believe it is appropriate to discriminate in that way between people who reside in Western Australia. There should not be one law for a person who lives in one part of the State and another law for a person who lives in another part of the State. We have a philosophical difference on that matter.

Hon Robin Chapple: By way of explanation, one of the problems with regard to firearms held in the Perth metropolitan area is that metropolitan members are utilising country shooting clubs in order to get a licence to hold a firearm. These people are actually operating under a licence agreement with shooting clubs in Laverton or wherever.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Hon Adele Farina): Order, member. This is matter that can, and should, be dealt with in committee. The minister has the call.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: Thank you, Madam Deputy President. I thank the member for explaining his point of view in the way that he has. The member also referred to Council of Australian Governments resolution 18, which deals with the cancellation of a licence in circumstances in which it can be shown that a loss or theft of a firearm is due to negligence or fraud on the part of the licensee. Additionally, he questioned what process the Police Service has in place to audit the registers of clubs and associations. I am advised that, as a matter of policy, if it can be proved that the theft or loss of a firearm involved negligence or fraud on the part of the licensee, the licensee will be prosecuted and the licence will be revoked. Additionally, the Police Service is in the process of establishing random audits of clubs and associations to examine registers and ensure that they comply with section 21(1) of the Firearms Act. The process of establishing compliance is being effected through discussions with various major shooting associations.

Hon Robin Chapple also raised the issue of whether, in line with COAG resolution 28, any further issues had arisen from the senior officers group presentation to the Australasian Police Ministers Council at its first meeting in 2003. COAG resolution 28 deals with the firearm policy working group, which is made up of representatives of the various firearm branches or registries of the different jurisdictions and is required to report back to the senior officers group on the status and implementation of the various COAG resolutions. No specific recommendations were made to the ministers council at that meeting. However, I am advised that it is accepted that Western Australia is fully compliant with all aspects of the COAG resolutions and the Prime Minister has provided correspondence to that effect.

Hon Robin Chapple also raised the issue of laser guns. This is probably the most exciting issue in the debate, and I would love to be in a position to deal with the specifics of laser guns in another piece of legislation in due course and perhaps carry out some research. I am advised the currently laser guns do not come within the definition of a firearm within the meaning of the Firearms Act 1973 and that there has been no proposal to date for laser guns to come within the meaning of a firearm under that Act. Laser guns are not dealt with in the

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current Bill, but should laser guns become an issue I am advised that the matter would be examined by the police and some legislation would be brought in to deal with the issue should that be necessary.

Hon Robin Chapple also inquired about how the deactivation of newly-prohibited hand guns for collectors will be coordinated. The collection of newly-prohibited hand guns will be dealt with by way of additional conditions being imposed on collectors by the firearms branch of the WA Police Service. All of the owners of these hand guns will be provided with a letter setting out what needs to be done, and the enforcement of these provisions will be by means of random inspections conducted by the police.

Hon Robin Chapple raised a number of foreshadowed amendments, some of which are dealt with in a supplementary notice paper. Noting that Hon Robin Chapple has foreshadowed a committee debate on those matters, I propose to deal with those issues when we move into committee, subject, of course, to the second reading being passed. In those circumstances, I commend the Bill to the House.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*Committee*

The Chairman of Committees (Hon George Cash) in the Chair; Hon Nick Griffiths (Minister for Housing and Works) in charge of the Bill.

**Clauses 1 to 10 put and passed.**

**Clause 11: Section 8 amended -**

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I propose to speak to both of the proposed amendments to clause 11 because they cover the same policy issues. Clause 11 currently allows replica antique firearms manufactured at any time to be exempted from the licensing requirement for collectors only. The proposed amendments tighten this provision by not allowing such exemptions to occur unless the firearm was manufactured prior to 1900. That is, I am advised, to ensure that only so-called genuine antique firearms are exempted. I move -

Page 7, line 29 - To insert after "loading)" -

manufactured before 1900

Page 7, line 30 - To insert after "missile" -

except that it does not include a breech loading firearm, a firearm with revolving chambers or barrels, or a cannon

**Amendments put and passed.**

**Clause, as amended, put and passed.**

**Clauses 12 to 15 put and passed.**

**Clause 16: Sections 15A and 15B inserted -**

Hon JOHN FISCHER: This clause proposes to insert new sections relating to accredited societies and collectors. Proposed section 15A reads, in part -

- (1) The Commissioner may, in writing, designate a person or body, whether incorporated or unincorporated, as an accredited society of collectors for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) For a person or body to be an accredited society of collectors -
  - (a) it has to be incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth or the *Associations Incorporation Act 1987*; . . .

Proposed section 15B(1) reads -

If an accredited society of collectors expels any of its members, it is required to notify the Commissioner in writing of the expulsion of the member, identifying the member and the reason for the expulsion.

These proposed new sections, as drafted, raise two points. Firstly, the words "incorporated" and "unincorporated" are mutually exclusive; an organisation is either one or the other. How can an unincorporated body, under proposed section 15A(1), be incorporated, as required in proposed section 15A(2)? Secondly, according to section 5 of the Interpretation Act 1984, "Definitions applicable to written laws", a "person" is defined as follows -

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**“person”** or any word or expression descriptive of a person includes a public body, company, or association or body of persons, corporate or unincorporate;

This definition begs the question of why proposed section 15A was drafted in the way that it has been. Why have the words “person”, “body”, “incorporated” and “unincorporated” been included together, when the Interpretation Act definition of “person” includes all those entities? If it is the intention of the Government that the drafted person is to be regarded as an individual in this case, how can that person expel one of its members? Also, does the Interpretation Act definition of “person” preclude the inclusion of proposed section 15A? It also follows that, if an accredited society of collectors has applied to be incorporated as required under proposed section 15A(2)(b), an imprisonment penalty is superfluous because of the effect of sections 40 to 43 of the Sentencing Act 1995. This is extremely sloppy drafting, and the Government should go back and have a good look at what it is doing.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I am very pleased that Hon John Fischer has spoken in support of the amendment standing in my name on the notice paper. He is quite correct in his observations, and he has spoken in favour of the amendment. I move -

Page 12, lines 3 to 6 - To delete the lines.

**Amendment put and passed.**

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: Regrettably, the minister answered only one half of Hon John Fischer’s question relating to an incorporated body. The question was: if a person is singular, will that person have the status of an incorporated body, rather than the definition of “person” as in the Interpretation Act, if the person - singular - is an accredited society? Hon John Fischer asked how such a person could be expelled, and what would be the consequences of such an action.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I can give the member a very simple answer, and that is that it is a very interesting question. I have put it to my advisers. The first part is obvious. I suppose a person can expel himself, if he wants to. If such a person does not want to be expelled, he cannot be expelled, can he? What are the consequences of that? The advice given to me is that it is an interesting anomaly.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: The nub of the question is: how does a single-person accredited body cease to be a single-person accredited body? Quite clearly, if the person expels himself, the accredited body fails to exist. However, the obverse of that is how does one become discredited other than by expelling himself and making it a membership of nil?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: As Hon Derrick Tomlinson foreshadowed by a somewhat moot interjection, the matter is dealt with in proposed section 15A(1), and the commissioner has the power to deal with the matter.

**Clause, as amended, put and passed.**

**Clauses 17 to 24 put and passed.**

**Clause 25: Section 23BA inserted -**

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: I move -

Page 23, lines 17 and 18 - To delete the lines and insert instead -

the officer is to communicate to the Commissioner that opinion and the grounds on which it was formed.

This amendment does not take anything away from what is established in proposed section 23BA(1), which currently states in part -

nothing prevents the officer in good faith from informing the Commissioner of that opinion.

We would certainly like to see that the requirement be enshrined rather than carried out at the whim of the officer. That is the intent of the amendment. If an officer of an approved shooting club or an approved organisation is of the opinion that either of proposed paragraph (a) or (b) applies, the officer is to communicate to the commissioner that opinion and the grounds on which it was formed.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: I have sympathy with this matter, particularly when I read section 11A(2) of the Firearms Amendment Act 1973, which states -

A person has a genuine reason for acquiring or possessing a firearm or ammunition if and only if -

- (a) it is for use by the person as a member of an approved shooting club and the person is an active and financial member of the club;

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I would have thought that if those decisions are made or that opinion is arrived at, it should be obligatory rather than optional for the officer to communicate that to the Commissioner of Police. For a while, I was the patron of the Kalamunda pistol club. It took its duty of care very seriously. In one instance, members were nervous about the fitness of one of its members to be a licensed holder of a hand gun and to keep it in his home. The action arrived at was to expel the member from the club. Once the member was expelled from the club, the person ceased to qualify for the hand gun licence. Responsible shooters accept that duty of care with that sort of responsibility. Since it is a requirement that the commissioner be satisfied that the applicant for the holder of the licence is in fact a licensed member, there should be an obligation for the club to advise him if a member has been expelled or has left the club. It follows that a similar obligation exists when there is unease about a person's fitness to hold a licence; that should likewise be an obligatory advice to the commissioner.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I have had the opportunity to consider Hon Robin Chapple's amendment. I have listened to what he and Hon Derrick Tomlinson have had to say. I have taken advice on the wording of the amendment moved by Hon Robin Chapple, and the Government does not oppose it.

**Amendment put and passed.**

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: I move -

Page 23, after line 18 - To insert the following -

- (1a) Where a person's application for membership or renewal of membership of an approved shooting club or approved organization is refused or, following a grant or renewal a person's membership is cancelled, an officer is to notify the Commissioner and each approved shooting club or approved organization of the name of the person subject to that refusal or cancellation and the reasons for that decision.
- (1b) A decision made by the Commissioner is not liable to be questioned or annulled by reason only that it was made in full or partial reliance on information provided under subsection (1) or (1a) and it is subsequently shown that the information was factually incorrect but, in any such case, the Commissioner must reconsider the decision when so requested by the person affected adversely and the extent to which the decision should, or might, be varied as a result of the correction of those factual errors.

The intent of this amendment is to further facilitate the aspect of that disclosure to the commissioner so that the commissioner and other shooting clubs that may be approached by that individual ensure that that individual, who has already been refused or referred to the commissioner because of other concerns, is identified to other clubs as well as to the commissioner. That will resolve one of the fundamental issues of club shopping, which was certainly raised in the Council of Australian Governments' recommendations. Club shopping was partially covered under section 21(1) of the Firearms Act 1973, but it is stated in the conditional letter of November 2003 as "where available". In that sense, it does not become obligatory for that information to be provided via club shopping.

The second part of the amendment has been moved so that, quite clearly, anyone can approach the commissioner for a revocation of that advice if he or she is once again suitable to apply to a club. The intent of that provision is to strengthen the provisions of club shopping and to ensure that the commissioner is aware of all information and has that deliberative responsibility.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I thought I had indicated earlier that I would agree with Hon Robin Chapple's amendment. My position has not changed, notwithstanding his argument!

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: I hate to be a spoilsport. I hoped I would be able to expedite this Bill. However, the effect of the part of the amendment that reads "to notify the Commissioner and each approved shooting club or approved organization of the name of the person subject to that refusal or cancellation" is similar to being "warned off" a racing track. The minister made the point yesterday, in answer to a question, that being warned off means being warned off from not only a particular racing club, but also internationally. A person's reputation is harmed internationally in that way. I prefer that we consider section 11 of the Firearms Act 1973, which reads -

**Exercise of Commissioner's discretion**

- (1) The Commissioner cannot grant an approval or permit or issue a licence under this Act to a person if the Commissioner is of the opinion that -
  - ...
  - (c) the person is not a fit and proper person to hold the approval, permit, or licence.

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A person can hold a licence for sporting purposes only if he or she is a member of an approved club. If a person ceases to be a member of a club, I agree with the first part of Hon Robin Chapple's amendment that the commissioner should be notified. However, I have considerable unease about then requiring the club to tell everybody else. I would prefer - I wonder whether the mover of the amendment will consider this - to delete the words "and each approved shooting club or approved organization of the name of the person subject to that refusal or cancellation and" so that the amendment would read "an officer is to notify the Commissioner of the decision and give reasons for that decision." In that way, the commissioner has sufficient information to exercise the discretion available to him or her in section 11(1) of the Act, and a person's membership of a particular club will be terminated because, in the opinion of the club, that person is not a fit person to hold a licence. If the commissioner has that information and the person goes club shopping as Hon Robin Chapple indicated - certainly that happens - the commissioner will have a flag against that person's name because of the advice given for the previous expulsion. That satisfies the capacity of the commissioner to not issue a licence on the grounds that in his or her opinion the applicant is not a fit person. That will subvert the consequence of shopping around when that person is believed by others to be an unfit person. I do not know how to handle this situation. I hope that Hon Robin Chapple is willing to accept my suggestion, so that we do not put the onus on a club to inform everybody, but it should inform the commissioner, so that the commissioner can exercise his or her discretion.

The CHAIRMAN: From a procedural point of view, it is possible, notwithstanding the fact that Hon Robin Chapple has moved to insert his amendment, to seek the leave of the committee to delete certain words. That is up to Hon Robin Chapple.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: I thank the member opposite for his argument. Before I move that way, I seek clarification from the minister.

Hon Nick Griffiths: Of your amendment!

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: No, of other aspects. What provision allows the commissioner to become aware of an application by a person wishing to join a shooting club at the time of the application? The key issue is that if the commissioner becomes aware of every application, he will know if a person is club shopping, but if there is no requirement for the commissioner to become aware of that application, there would be no way that the commissioner or the clubs could know that an individual was club shopping.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: The commissioner would become aware when a person applies for a firearm licence, but not otherwise.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: Section 11A(2) of the Act states that the person must be an active and financial member of the club. An active member of the club, one assumes, is a person who goes along regularly and participates in club events. As the patron of a club, I could be a member, but I have an abhorrence for firearms and am frightened even to hold a firearm in my hand. That is a peculiarity of mine. I would never be an active member of a club, even though as a politician or patron I might be a member. Wives, spouses and husbands might be members of a club but active only in so far as the husbands are the ones who provide the scones, jam and cream. To be an active member of a club one must hold a firearm licence; to hold a firearm licence one must make application to the police minister, unless of course one is in a club in which one is allowed to use somebody else's firearm. I do not know whether that satisfies the requirements of the Act.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: I seek clarification again prior to making a decision to continue with my amendment. It is said that certain information goes to the commissioner. Is the member or gun owner's licence removed at the time of that referral and that person removed from that club because of the club's decision in relation to that person? Does that mean that that person automatically loses his licence and has to reapply, or can that person retain that licence until a new club is found?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: The answer to the first question is no. In dealing with the information the commissioner may embark on a course of action or he may not.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: Would you elaborate?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: The commissioner has the capacity to cause people to lose their licences.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: But he may or may not exercise that capacity? It is a discretion.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: That is so.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: That is the point. On that basis I continue with my amendment as it stands.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: I withdraw any reservations that I had.

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Hon JOHN FISCHER: I would have been prepared to go along with Hon Derrick Tomlinson's suggestion, but I think this is an abuse of personal rights. I can see no necessity for this at all. These people may be kicked out of those clubs for totally different reasons that have nothing to do with their gun-handling ability or anything like that. This is a disgusting abuse of legislation in this place and I am totally opposed to it. It is a total infraction of personal rights and it could damage someone's integrity beyond repair. It is a disgusting motion.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS: I have been given advice, I have listened to the debate and I have conferred with my advisers. I note the original suggestion of Hon Derrick Tomlinson. Racing and shooting are not the same, but I think the principle is similar. I think what Hon John Fischer has said is sensible. Going along with the thrust of what Hon Robin Chapple proposes, I think that in proposed subsection (1a) the matter could be appropriately dealt with by deleting all words after the word "Commissioner" on the third line. If the commissioner wants to find out why, it can be up to the commissioner to find out why, rather than having the officer of the club give reasons, as proposed by Hon Derrick Tomlinson. If the committee were minded to go along with what I am suggesting, the officer of the club would be required to advise the commissioner, and no-one else. If the commissioner wanted to find out why - presumably he would - we should require him to do so rather than place a further obligation on the officer, because at the end of the day we are placing obligations on people who are volunteers. I would be interested in the views of other members. When we move out of committee I will propose that consideration of the report be made an order of the day for a later stage of this day's sitting so that the matter can be reflected on, hopefully during the luncheon break, if we get that far.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: On the basis of that discussion I am prepared to drop the words that the minister has indicated should be deleted and go with the amended motion as proposed by Hon Derrick Tomlinson.

Hon Nick Griffiths: Hon Derrick Tomlinson is going a bit further, though.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: No. My understanding was that he was moving the same as the minister.

The CHAIRMAN: Members, there seems to be some confusion about who wants what with proposed subsection (1a). Hon Robin Chapple has moved certain words. It may be convenient to postpone further consideration of this clause, deal with the balance of the clauses and then, if necessary, take a five-minute break whilst words are worked out. We will then be able to deal with this clause and do as the minister suggests, or we can report progress and come back later.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: That is sage advice. However, before we make a decision I want to make my position quite clear. What I understand Hon Robin Chapple desires to achieve is that when a person is expelled from a club or has his membership cancelled because club members think that the person is an unfit person, that person is prevented from shopping around for membership of another club by all clubs being alerted. I agree with Hon John Fischer that that is a breach of individual rights. I do not want a situation in which the commissioner is required to ask every person who makes an application whether he has been a member of a club before and why he was expelled and then ask the club. I am thinking of the administrative trivia involved in that. I do not want the commissioner to be advised of the membership of all clubs because of the administrative trivia involved. However, I want the firearms branch of the Police Service to have a "flag". An example would be: Freddy Kakiddlehopper was expelled from East Bullamakanka firearms club because its members thought he was an unfit person. It would then be up to the firearms branch, having seen that flag, to decide to have a second look at the application. They would ask why Freddy Kakiddlehopper was expelled. They might be told that he had it off with the club secretary's wife. That is not an appropriate reason for expelling him from the club. My motion is to delete all words after "Commissioner" as far as "and" and insert "give". That would represent a flag. The commissioner would use his discretion to inquire about the reasons for expulsion. If there is no flag, the opportunity for club shopping is not defeated.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: I take on board what the member has said.

Hon Nick Griffiths: I am advised that what the member referred to a few moments ago is the practice. I am quite happy for whatever compromise of words the committee is able to come up with. However, I take the point of Hon John Fischer. I will not support the amendment unless the words I suggested to be deleted are deleted.

Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE: The issue that concerns me is that there is no provision - as identified by the minister - to cover the situation that once a person has lost his club membership, he may approach another club and seek to become a member. There is no flag that appears with the commissioner to state that is happening. That has been the inherent problem in club shopping.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: I move -

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That the amendment be amended in line 3 of proposed subsection (1a) by deleting “each approved shooting club or approved organization of the name of the person subject to that refusal or cancellation and” and insert instead -

give

The amendment would then read that “an officer is to notify the Commissioner and give the reasons for that decision.”

**Amendment on the amendment put and passed.**

**Amendment, as amended, put and passed.**

**Clause, as amended, put and passed.**

**Clauses 26 to 31 put and passed.**

**Title put and passed.**

**Bill reported, with amendments.**