

**FIREARMS — STORAGE REQUIREMENTS**

**1213. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police:**

I refer to circumstances in which competitive or recreational shooters are the house guests of other licensed firearm owners for the purpose of attending events away from their home.

- (1) Is it permissible for the visitor to secure his or her firearms in the host's gun safe; and, if not —
  - (a) why not; and
  - (b) where should the visitor's firearms be stored?
- (2) Are there any plans to alter the existing requirements?

**Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:**

On behalf of the Minister for Police, I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question, which, having heard the muttering from those on the other side, I ought to point out was asked yesterday, giving the minister the opportunity to sign off on the answer in advance, whereas she is not able to do so today because she is occupied in managing a bill in the other place and is not able to turn her attention to the questions in an appropriate fashion to confirm that they have been answered. She thanks members for their indulgence and for appreciating the fact that she is otherwise engaged. I get back to Hon Rick Mazza's question because I digress.

**The PRESIDENT:** Hon Rick Mazza is waiting anxiously for an answer.

**Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN:** The answer is —

- (1) Currently, it is not permissible for a visitor to secure his or her firearms in a host's gun cabinet, as this would constitute offences under sections 19(1)(c) and 19(2)(c) of the Firearms Act 1973. The licence holder must store or secure the firearm or ammunition in a way so as to prevent an unauthorised person gaining or having access to the firearms or ammunition. Section 23(9) of the Firearms Act 1973 refers to the responsibility of a licensee to ensure the safekeeping of a firearm or ammunition while in actual physical possession or to have custody or control otherwise than by way of storage.
- (2) The Firearms Act 1973 and the Firearms Regulations 1974 are currently being reviewed by the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia, and all parts and requirements of the act and regulations will be the subject of this review.