

Summary Offences (Prevention of Knife Crime) Amendment Regulation 2024

Explanatory notes for SL 2024 No. 184

made under the

Summary Offences Act 2005

General Outline

Short title

Summary Offences (Prevention of Knife Crime) Amendment Regulation 2024

Authorising law

Sections 19K and 49 of the *Summary Offences Act 2005*.

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

On 19 February 2024, the *Summary Offences (Prevention of Knife Crime) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* (Amendment Act) received assent.

The objective of the Amendment Act is to advance reforms designed to promote community safety, reduce youth offending and minimise the risks associated with knives and other controlled items by reducing the accessibility of these items to young people, disrupting and deterring violent offences, and curbing the notoriety of weapon possession.

Upon commencement, the Amendment Act will amend the *Summary Offences Act 2005* (SO Act) to:

- prohibit the sale of knives and other weapons (known as controlled items) to minors;
- make it an offence for a person to falsely represent themselves as being over the age of 18 years for the purpose of being sold a controlled item;
- require retailers to display signage advertising the legal prohibition against the sale of controlled items to minors;
- prohibit controlled items from being sold or advertised in a way that suggests the items is suitable for combat, intended to be used for violence, or likely to stimulate or encourage violent or criminal behaviour involving the item; and
- impose obligations upon suppliers of particular controlled items to safely secure the items at retail locations.

The objective of the Summary Offences (Prevention of Knife Crime) Amendment Regulation 2024 (Amendment Regulation) is to prescribe the mandatory size and content requirements for each prohibition sign to be displayed by commercial sellers.

Achievement of policy objectives

The Amendment Regulation achieves its objectives by amending the Summary Offences Regulation 2016 to prescribe the mandatory size and content requirements for each prohibition sign to be displayed by commercial sellers.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the objectives of the SO Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The Amendment Regulation will facilitate the commencement of the amendment to the SO Act to require retailers to display signage advertising the legal prohibition against the sale of controlled items to minors.

The Explanatory Notes for the Amendment Act noted that any costs incurred through the implementation of amendments will be met through existing budgets. The prescribing of the minimum requirements for each prohibition sign to be displayed by commercial sellers is not expected to present any additional costs for government.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the fundamental legislative principles as defined in section 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

Consultation

In compliance with the Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy, an Impact Analysis Statement has been completed.

The National Retail Association was consulted and supports the Amendment Regulation.