



Judy Spence MP
Member for Mount Gravatt



Office of the
**Minister for Police and
Corrective Services**

Ref: 9266 F3 LS

24 JUL 2008

Mr Tibor Csapo
President
Megatron Club Incorporated
PO Box 142
FIGTREE NSW 2525

Dear Mr Csapo

Thank you for your letter of 22 April 2008 concerning the importation and possession of Transformers Masterpiece Megatron toys.

I referred this matter to the Queensland Police Service.

The *Weapons Act 1990* (the Act) and the (the Regulation) provides for strict regulation of certain types *Weapons Regulation 1996* and classes of weapon.

The object of the Act is to prevent the misuse of weapons through, amongst other things, the imposition of strict controls on the possession of weapons as well as requiring the safe and secure storage and carriage of weapons. The principles underlying the Act stipulate that possession and use of weapons are subordinate to the need to ensure public and individual safety.

I am advised that the Transformers Masterpiece Megatron toys which you propose to import and possess are currently considered replica weapons as provided by section 6A of the Act. It is understood that the transformer you seek to import is convertible to a replica of the Walther P-38 semi automatic pistol.

The increasing use of replica weapons and the activation of replica weapons is an issue that the Firearms Policy Working Group is currently investigating with a view to reporting to the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management – Police (MCPEMP). The basis for this research is to enable MCPEMP to consider enacting nationally consistent regulation of replica weapons.

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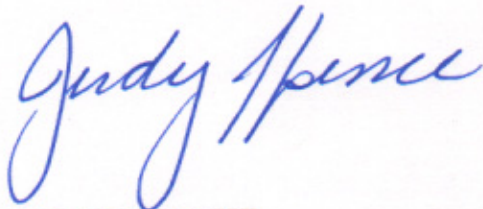
As you would be aware, weapons licensing and control is an emotive and contentious issue. On the one hand, Governments have an obligation not to unnecessarily impinge on the rights of an individual or to prevent a person from taking part in their chosen pursuits, whilst also being charged with the responsibility of ensuring public and individual safety. The current weapons legislation reflects Queensland's commitment to the then Australasian Police Ministers Council and the Council of Australian Governments agreements on firearms and weapons.

The *Weapons Act 1990* is currently under review and the Queensland Government in achieving weapons controls is committed to consulting with all sections of the community. Before considering any future amendments to the legislation, the views of all stakeholders and those of the Queensland Police Service will be taken into consideration. Your views concerning this matter have been noted.

Inspector Michael Crowley, Manager, Weapons Licensing Branch is available on telephone (07) 3015 7771 to assist with any further enquiries.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



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