



SAGA Media Release - 8 October 2026

ALERT | Acting Police Minister Addresses the Portfolio Committee on Police on Firearms Regulation

Firearm legislation reportedly before the State Law Adviser

Issued by the SAGA Board of Trustees

The South African Gunowners' Association (SAGA) calls for disclosure of the firearms draft following Acting Police Minister Firoz Cachalia's remarks to the Portfolio Committee on Police on 7 October 2026.

Acting Minister Cachalia stated that **the Firearms Control Amendment Bill is currently before the State Law Adviser, with the broad purpose of strengthening regulation.**

Which version is under legal review, and following what consultation? **The firearm community deserves disclosure, not another surprise.** SAGA has not seen the current draft under legal review or a fresh gazetted invitation to comment on it. Nor have we been shown how the sector's substantive objections have been addressed.

Firearm Community Deserves Answers

Government must disclose what it now proposes and explain the process ahead. Disclose the firearms draft, its supporting evidence and the consultation timetable.

Government must answer:

- Which version of the Firearms Control Amendment Bill is before the State Law Adviser?
- When was it submitted for legal review, and what is its current status?
- What has changed from the previously circulated drafts?
- Who was consulted on this version, and how were their objections addressed?
- Has an updated Socio-Economic Impact Assessment been completed, and when will it be published with the supporting evidence?
- When will it go to Cabinet, and what exactly will Cabinet be asked to approve?
- When will the current text be published for meaningful scrutiny by the people it will affect?



Public accountability demands answers. Referral for legal review does not, by itself, establish either Cabinet approval or an unlawful process. Government must clarify the text, evidence, consultation history and next steps.

Cross Border Trafficking Demands Effective Enforcement

Acting Minister Cachalia stated that the “***committee needs to take seriously the problem of leakage, both from the public sector as well as the private sector.***” He also said that “***a lot of these arms come into our country across our borders.***” He further noted that “***in parts the border is completely porous***” and called for cooperation between the two governments and their law-enforcement agencies.

These remarks acknowledge both firearm diversion from public and private holdings and cross-border arms flows. Government must explain how the proposed firearms amendments will address these sources of criminal supply and how enforcement will be strengthened.

Referring to the recent massacres and mass shootings, the Minister said that the perpetrators included foreign nationals from Lesotho had entered South Africa across porous borders, murdered people and returned across those same borders. SAGA reports this as the Minister’s account, not as a finding independently established by the Association. The response must target the perpetrators, weapons suppliers and trafficking networks through evidence-led investigations and effective cross-border cooperation.

Daily Maverick’s report on the same proceedings records SAPS identifying sources of illicit firearms including state and private-security stocks, theft from civilians and institutions, and smuggling from neighbouring countries.

SAGA’s position is clear: secure armouries and recovered firearms, trace diverted weapons, and prosecute theft, corruption and trafficking. Further restrictions on compliant owners cannot substitute for effective enforcement. Government must show how each proposed amendment will disrupt criminal supply chains and how SAPS will implement it.

Every Responsible Firearm Owner Has a Stake

Every responsible firearm owner has a voice. The response cannot be left to a handful of associations.

- It concerns the person who relies on a firearm for lawful self-defence.
- It concerns the farmer protecting a family and livelihood.
- It concerns the sport shooter, hunter, collector, dealer, trainer and security professional.

It also concerns every South African who expects legislation to be developed openly, justified by evidence and subjected to meaningful public scrutiny.



We are Monitoring and Demanding Answers

SAGA is reviewing the parliamentary record and seeking clarity on the Bill's status, content and consultation history.

Pay attention. Share this alert. Add your voice.

Ask your associations and public representatives to demand publication of the current draft, its impact assessment and a clear consultation timetable. Join SAGA or support its work. Prepare to make an informed submission when formal public comment opens.

Secure the borders - Stop firearm diversion - Publish the draft Amendment Bill.

Lawful firearm owners deserve effective policing and an accountable legislative process. SAGA will pursue these answers publicly, firmly and without apology.

SAGA - *a trusted voice in the firearms sector for over four decades*



Drafted by Shaun Lyle, SAGA Trustee
saga@saga.org.za - www.saga.org.za
Tel 031-562-9951, Box 35203, Northway 4065

Acknowledgements

- *Parliament of South Africa: Portfolio Committee on Police proceedings, 7 October 2026. Source of Acting Minister Cachalia's remarks.*
- *Daily Maverick: Vincent Cruywagen, "From police to private security: How legal guns end up in criminal hands." 7 October 2026. Source of the reported SAPS evidence on illicit firearms.*

