**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**POLICE COMMITTEE RESOLVES TO GIVE CIVILIAN SECRETARIAT FOR POLICE MORE TIME TO CONSIDER COMMENTS ON FIREARMS CONTROL BILL**

**Parliament, Friday, 26 November 2021 –**The Portfolio Committee on Police has resolved to give the Civilian Secretariat for Police (CSP) more time to consider public comments on the Firearms Control Amendment Bill.

The decision to do so was based on the need for inclusivity, to achieve consensus and the requirement that the Bill should reflect the views of the South African public, as envisaged in the Constitution.

Public participation is the bedrock in our constitutional democracy and everything must be done to safeguard the rights of all South Africans. The committee received a report indicating that the CSP has so far received over 118 000 comments. On this basis, the committee decided to give the CSP enough time to complete the process.

It is important to give this Bill the time it needs, and thus it will be tabled when all relevant processes have been adequately dealt with by the Secretariat for Police.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON POLICE, MS TINA JOEMAT-PETTERSSON.**

For media enquiries or interviews with the Chairpersons, please contact the committee's Media Officer:

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