

OFFICE  
10 JUL 22 2019

SENATE  
S. No. 1927

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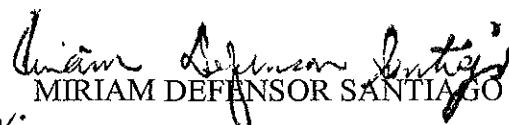
Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act. No. 7166 (The Synchronized Election Law of 1991) has, for its purpose, two laudable intentions: minimize election-related violence and to safeguard the sanctity of the ballot by prohibiting the carrying of firearms outside one's residence during the election period. Section 32 of the same law, however, is all-encompassing and has resulted in the unduly restrictive measure of prohibiting even the licensing of firearms during the election period. This goes beyond the legislative intent of the abovementioned law.

This bill seeks to provide a reasonable remedy, by retaining the salient features of R.A. 7166 while amending Section 32 to save the affected sectors from its oppressive features.<sup>1</sup>

*acr.*  
  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session

10 JUN 27 1959

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1 AN ACT  
2 AMENDING SECTION 32 OF R.A. NO. 7166 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE 1991  
3 SYNCHRONIZED ELECTION LAW"

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

4 SECTION 1. Section 32 of R. A. 7166 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 "SEC. 32. Who May Bear Firearms. - During the election period, no  
6 person shall bear, carry or transport firearms or other weapons in public places,  
7 including any building, street, park, private vehicles or public conveyances, even  
8 if licensed to [possess or] carry the same, unless authorized in writing by the  
9 Commission. [The issuance of firearms licenses shall be suspended during the  
10 election period]. THE FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVE DIVISION (FED) OF  
11 THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE SHALL BE ALLOWED TO  
12 CONTINUE TO PROCESS AND APPROVE APPLICATION FOR LICENSE  
13 TO POSSESS FIREARM/S TO QUALIFIED APPLICANTIS, ISSUE THE  
14 CORRESPONDING LICENSE/S AND PERMITE TO TRANSPORT THE  
15 FIREARM/S SUBJECT THEREOF FROM ITS STORAGE FACILITIES TO  
16 THE PLACE SPECIFIED IN THE APPROVED LICENSE, AND TO  
17 AUTHORIZE THE TRANSPORT OF IMPORTED FIREARMS FROM THE  
18 WAREHOUSE OF THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS TO ITS STORAGE  
19 FACILITIES."

1           SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
2 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent  
3 with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

4           SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* -If any provision, or part hereof, is held invalid or  
5 unconstitutional, the remainder of the la or the provision not otheiwise affected shall remain

6           SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
7 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,