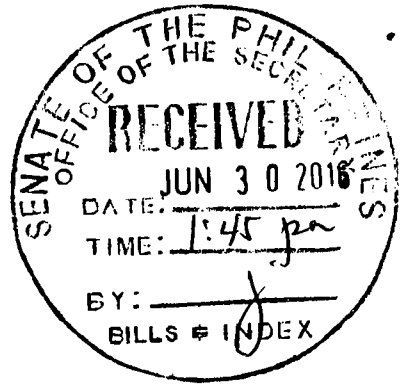


SEVENTENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

S. B. No. 20



Introduced by **SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN II**

AN ACT TO EXEMPT PASSENGERS FROM LIABILITY FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF CHECKED-IN AMMUNITION

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Ammunition poses an immediate risk when the possessor has the ability to load it into a firearm. Where the unloaded ammunition is included in the checked-in belongings of a passenger, the passenger loses access to it and as such, it no longer poses an immediate threat to others. Furthermore, there is a high probability of its discovery by airport authorities once it goes through the x-ray machine.

In the light of reported incidents of ammunition being planted in the belongings of passengers, there is a need to fine tune the balancing of interests of the right of aircraft passengers from physical harm while on board and the right of passengers from planting of evidence while in the terminal.

Under this measure, where ammunition is discovered in the checked-in belongings of a passenger, the passenger shall no longer be held liable for illegal possession of ammunition.

Airport procedures will be changed. Once a passenger arrives at the airport, he/she will be asked which of his/her belongings will be checked-in and which he/she will retain as hand-carried baggage. After check-in, his/her belongings will be scanned by at least two (2) x-ray machines, one machine for the checked-in baggage and another machine for the hand-carried belongings.

Under this arrangement, the risk of being victimized by planting of ammunition is greatly diminished or totally eradicated. If a passenger wants to be totally secured, he/she may choose to check-in all his/her belongings. Doing so will exempt him/her from any liability in case ammunition is discovered therein.

Lastly, may we take this opportunity to remind would-be planters of ammunition that they are facing imprisonment where the maximum penalty is Reclusion Perpetua – non-bailable when the evidence of guilt is strong.

Wherefore, I earnestly seek the immediate enactment of this proposed measure.

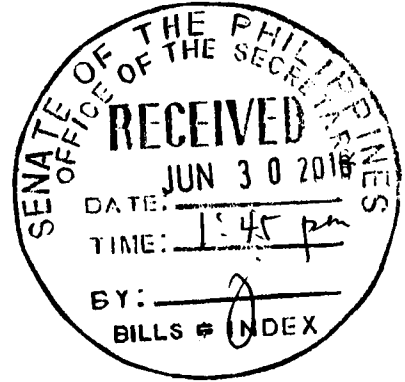
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregorio B. Honasan II". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a large, faint circular stamp that is mostly obscured by the signature itself.

GREGORIO B. HONASAN II

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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Introduced by **SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN II**

**AN ACT TO EXEMPT PASSENGERS FROM LIABILITY FOR ILLEGAL
POSSESSION OF CHECKED-IN AMMUNITION**

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

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "*Checked-in Ammunition Liability Exemption*
2 *Act*".

3 SEC. 2. All airports shall subject the belongings of aircraft passengers to x-ray scanning
4 only after passengers shall have chosen which belongings will be checked-in and which will be
5 retained by the passengers as hand-carried baggage.

6 SEC. 3. Where ammunition is discovered in the checked-in belongings of an aircraft pas-
7 senger, the passenger shall not be liable for illegal possession of ammunition under Republic Act
8 No. 10591 or the "*Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act*" but such ammuni-
9 tion shall be confiscated by the government.

10 SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and
11 regulations, or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby likewise repealed or amended
12 accordingly.

13 SEC. 5. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any section or provisions of this Act is
14 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not affected thereby shall
15 remain in full force and effect.

16 SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days upon publi-
17 cation in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

18 *Approved,*