

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
S. No. 1739

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 18, 19 AND 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10591 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "*THE COMPREHENSIVE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION REGULATION ACT*"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10591 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act" recognizes (a) the right of qualified private citizens to self-defense through the use of licensed firearms; and, (b) the need to provide legal support to law enforcement agencies in their campaign against crime, stop the proliferation of illegal firearms or weapons and the illegal manufacture of firearms or weapons, ammunition and parts thereof.

The intention of RA 10591 is to account and register firearms in accordance with the requirements of state laws and regulations. Included are provisions that regulate the manufacture, import and export of firearms and its essential accessories. However, it appears that certain provisions of the statute were, intentionally or unintentionally, too rigid and rendered it unreasonably difficult for private citizens to own or use licensed firearms.

In as much as individual gun owners have responsibilities, they also have rights recognized by the Act itself that should not be unreasonably deprived. Hence, this bill proposes the rationalizing of certain provisions of the existing law so that individuals will not be unduly deprived to legally own firearms and, consequently, to defend themselves, their loved ones and their property.

In summary, the proposed measure seeks to achieve the following:

1. Rationalize the standards and requisites for issuance of and obtaining a License to Own and Possess Firearms (LTOPF);
2. Expand the provision on the ownership of firearms and ammunition by a juridical entity;
3. Clarify the ownership of firearms by the National Government of firearms;
4. Decentralize the issuance the approval and issuance of LTOPFs;
5. Further clarify the provision on registration of firearms;

6. Broaden the provision on the license to possess ammunition;
7. Specify the validity of the permit to transport firearms for use in training, sports and competitions;
8. Extend the validity of the permit to carry, LTOPF and registration of firearms;
9. Streamline the registration and renewal process; and,
10. Simplify the provisions on the sale and registration, transport and delivery of firearms and sale of ammunition during election period.

Given the foregoing ends, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



RALPH G. RECTO