Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Ouezon City

Eighteenth CongressFirst Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5674



Introduced by Hon. Deogracias Victor 'DV' B. Savellano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10591's passage in 2013 delivered a comprehensive law to regulate firearms in the country but it also had stricter guidelines on securing a gun license and limited the number of firearms a person may own.

The Philippine National Police Firearms and Explosives Office's (PNP-FEO's) records for 2018 showed that there were over 1.8 million registered guns distributed among 1.16 individuals and entities who have to renew their licenses to own and possess firearms (LTOPF), permit to carry firearms outside of residence or place of business (PTCFOR) and registration of firearms every two (2) years, one (1) year and four (4) years, respectively.

There is now a need to reduce transactions with government agencies by providing for a longer period of validity for PTCFORs from one (1) year to two (2) years; and LTOPFs and registration of firearms from two (2) years and four (4) years respectively to a consistent five (5) years for both, as the present periods of validity of such licenses, permit and registration contribute to bureaucratic hindrances and red tape. This bill now seeks to fix the period of validity of PTCFORs from one (1) year to two (2) years amending Section 7; and LTOFPs and registration of firearms from two (2) years and four (4) years respectively, to a consistent five (5) years for both by amending Section 19 of RA 10591, unless sooner revoked or suspended. The LTOFP and registration of firearms' validity is intended to be aligned with the the reckoning point of the birthdate of the applicant or licensee.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

HON. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR 'DV' B. SAVELLANO
1st Legislative District, Ilocos Sur

Republic of the Philippines House of Representatives Quezon City, Metro Manila

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HOUSE BILL NO. 5674

Introduced by Honorable Deogracias Victor 'DV' B. Savellano

AN ACT

FIXING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE LICENSE TO OWN AND POSSESS, PERMIT TO CARRY OUTSIDE OF RESIDENCE OR PLACE OF BUSINESS AND REGISTRATION OF FIREARMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 7 AND 19 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10591, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE FIREARNS AND AMMUNITION REGULATION ACT".

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

SECTION 1. Section 7 of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10591 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC.7. Carrying of Firearms Outside of Residence or Place of Business-A permit to carry firearms shall be issued by the Chief of the PNP or his/her duly authorized representative to any qualified person whose life is under actual threat or his/her life is in imminent danger due to the nature of his/her profession, occupation or business. PROVIDED, THAT SUCH PERMIT SHALL BE VALID FOR TWO (2) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION, UNLESS SOONER REVOKED OR SUSPENDED."

It shall be the burden of the applicant to prove that his/her life is under actual threat by submitting a threat assessment certificate from the PNP.

For purposes of this Act, the following professionals are considered to be in imminent danger due to the nature of their profession, occupation or business:

- (a) Members of the Philippine Bar;
- (b) Certified Public Accountants;

- (c) Accredited Media Practitioners;
- (d) Cashiers, Bank Tellers;
- (e) Priests, Ministers, Rabbi, Imams;
- (f) Physicians and Nurses;
- (g) Engineers; and
- (h) Businessmen, who by the nature of their business or undertaking, are exposed to high risk of being targets of criminal elements.

SECTION 2. Section 19 of R.A. No. 10591 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 19. Renewal of Licenses and Registration.- All types of licenses to possess a firearm shall be renewed every [two (2)] FIVE (5) years RECKONED FROM THE BIRTHDATE OF THE LICENSEE, UNLESS SOONER REVOKED OR SUSPENDED. Failure to renew the license on or before the date of its expiration shall cause the revocation of the license and of the registration of the firearm/under said license.

The registration of firearm shall be renewed every [four (4)] **FIVE (5)** years **RECKONED FROM THE BIRTHDATE OF THE LICENSEE**. Failure to renew the registration shall cause the holder of the firearm on or before the date of the expiration shall cause the revocation of the license of the firearm. The said firearm shall be confiscated or forfeited in the government after due process.

The failure to renew a license or registration within the periods stated Above on two (2) occasions shall cause the holder of the firearm to be perpetually disqualified from applying for any firearm license. The application for the renewal of the license or registration may be submitted to the FEO of the PNP, within six (6) months before the date of the expiration of such license or registration.

- **SECTION 3.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Chief of the PNP shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
- **SECTION 4.** Separability Clause. If any part, section or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the sections or provisions which are not affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
- **SECTION 5**. *Repealing Clause*. All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, ordinances, rules and regulations, other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- **SECTION 6.** *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,