

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6912**

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**Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

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**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 FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION REGULATION ACT"**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article I, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10591 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act" lays down the policy of the State to maintain peace and order and protect the people against violence. Under the same provision, the RA 10591 similarly recognizes the right of its qualified citizens to self-defense through, when it is the reasonable means to repel the unlawful aggression under the circumstances, the use of firearms. Thus, RA 10591 establishes the legal framework for regulating the ownership, possession, carrying, manufacture, dealing in and importation of firearms, ammunition, or parts thereof, in order 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.

This proposed bill streamlines both the licensing and registration of firearms and extending the period of their validity. In doing so, it is hoped that gun owners will

be encouraged to register and therefore reduce the number of loose firearms proliferating in the country. According to the Philippine National Police, there were are 200,000 private individuals who hold firearm and ammunition licenses. About 600,000 firearms are also registered with the PNP-FEO and authorities estimate an approximately one million loose or unregistered firearms nationwide. Extending the validity of the license is also beneficial to those who have a license as they would not need to re-register and renew their registration and license as frequently as under the existing law.

This proposed legislation is in line with the government's continuing initiatives to achieve efficiency in license renewals and registration. By providing a standard period of validity and firearms registration, the red tape that has discouraged gun owners to register and secure licenses is also drastically reduced. Amending Section 19 of RA No. 10591 by extending the validity of both the license and registration to five (5) years so they can be renewed at the same time, the extension aligns gun license validity with the validity of other government-issued documents.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnest sought.



**LUIS RAYMUND "L-RAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**



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

**Section 1.** *Section 7 of Republic Act 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 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.*

**Sec. 2.** Section 19 of Republic Act 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/s under said licensee. The registration of firearm shall be renewed every [four (-1)] FIVE (5) years RECKONED FROM THE BIRTHDATE OF THE LICENSEE. Failure to renew the registration 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 favor of 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."*

**Sec. 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.

**Sec. 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.

**Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules, regulations, other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby 8 repealed or modified accordingly.



**Sec. 6. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,