
AN ACT

To establish a one-time Amnesty for those persons who will voluntarily relinquish possession over prohibited firearms and ammunition; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:

1 Section 1. Short Title. This Act may be referred to as
2 the "Firearms Amnesty Act of 1991".

3 Section 2. Intent. It is the intent of the Legislature
4 to lower the potential for violent crime and accidents by
5 reducing the amount of weapons available for such crime and
6 accidents. The Legislature believes that a one-time amnesty
7 for persons unlawfully possessing prohibited firearms is an
8 effective method to reduce firearm related crime and
9 accidents.

10 Section 3. Amendment. 6 CMC, Division 2, Chapter 2,
11 Article 1 is amended by adding a new Section 2231 to read as
12 follows:

13 "Section 2231. Amnesty Exemption.

14 (a) Sixty days after the effective date of
15 this Act there will begin a six months amnesty
16 period in which any person who relinquishes control
17 to the Department of Public Safety of a firearm or
18 firearm ammunition prohibited by 6 CMC, Section
19 2222, Subsection (e) or (f), shall be exempt from
20 prosecution pursuant to 6 CMC, Section 2222. In
21 addition, there shall be no civil nor criminal
22 penalty of any kind because a person relinquishes a
23 firearm or ammunition whose possession is
24 prohibited by 6 CMC, Section 2222.

25 (b) The Director of Public Safety, upon the
26 effective date of this Act, shall prepare rules for
27 the implementation of firearm and ammunition

1 amnesty under this Act. Said rules must be
 2 completed within forty-five days of the effective
 3 date of this Act and shall focus on a
 4 relinquishment method which maintains the privacy
 5 of any person who relinquishes control to the
 6 Department of Public Safety of either a prohibited
 7 firearm or prohibited ammunition, or both. The
 8 publication of said rules in the Commonwealth
 9 Register shall be waived, but such rules must be
 10 approved by the Attorney General.

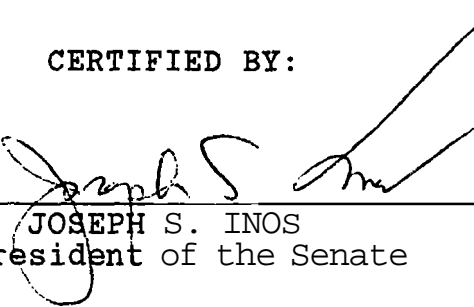
11 (c) Upon the effective date of this Act, the
 12 Director of the Department of Public Safety shall
 13 be responsible for using public announcements and
 14 media releases to inform the Commonwealth people of
 15 the general details of the firearm and ammunition
 16 amnesty."

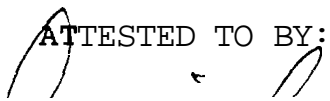
17 Section 4. Severability. If any portion of this Act is
 18 held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the
 19 remaining portion shall not be affected by such holding.

20 Section 5. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect
 21 upon its approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming law
 22 without such approval.


CERTIFIED BY:

ATTESTED TO BY:


 JOSEPH S. INOS
 President of the Senate


 EDWARD U. MARATITA
 Senate Legislative Secretary

Approved this 30th day of _____, 1991.


 LORENZO I. DE LEON GUERRERO
 Governor
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands