

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6614



Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" T. Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On October 2, 2017, a lone gunman mowed down concert-goers in Las Vegas, USA, killing 59 people and wounding 400 others. One culprit is the wide accessibility of guns and relaxed policies in gun ownership. In reacting to these tragic events, we can either go proactive or reactive. We would do well to opt for the former.

Hence, in order to stave off similar tragedy at the home front, it behooves the government to mandate a more stringent policy on granting individuals permit to carry or own firearms.

And considering the peace and order situation in the country, we are left with little choice but to enforce stricter guidelines on gun possession. We can still vividly call to mind the tragic culmination of a road altercation involving a car driver and a cyclist resulting in the latter's being shot dead. As could be observed from the CCTV footage, it was surreal how in an apparent wanton disregard for life, the aggressor matter-of-factly got out of his car, arrogantly walked toward the victim and casually shot him more than once to seal his fate. Unfortunately still, one of the bullets he fired found an unintended target. She was in critical condition.

Furthermore, the spate of killings around the nation carried out by riding-in-tandem hired killers brings to fore one imperative: We need stricter gun control regulations.

Individuals have to go through and pass a series of tests and seminars before they could be in the clear for the permit. They have to be well-educated on the responsibility of carrying firearms in order to walk around as responsible carriers of such deadly weapons.

The approval of this timely measure is earnestly sought.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Winnie Castelo'. The signature is written over the printed name 'WINNIE CASTELO' and extends across the bottom right of the page.

WINNIE CASTELO

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AN ACT
MANDATING MORE STRINGENT POLICY ON GRANTING INDIVIDUALS PERMIT TO
CARRY FIREARMS AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Stricter Permit to Carry a Firearm Regulation Act."

SEC. 2. There shall hereby be a series of tests and seminars that an individual should pass in order to be eligible to be granted permit to carry a firearm as follows:

- (a). Neuropsychiatric test
- (b). Anger management seminar
- (c). Firearm safety seminar
- (d). Safe gun handling etiquette seminar
- (e). Proper handgun maintenance seminar
- (f). Situational awareness seminar
- (g). Marksmanship training

SEC. 3. The Philippine National Police shall issue appropriate rules, regulations, guidelines, orders and penalties for violation hereof to effectively carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days upon its approval, its publication in the Official Gazette, and in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,