

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWELFTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2000

EIGHTTH DAY

August 21, 2000

The House of Representatives of the Twelfth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature convened in its Eighth Day, Second Regular Session, on Friday, August 21, 2000, at 10:42 a.m., in the House Chamber, Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Honorable Benigno R. Fitial, Speaker of the House presided.

A moment of silence was observed.

In accordance with Rule XIII, § 2(a), fourteen members were present. Representatives Martin B. Ada, Diego T. Benavente, Antonio M. Camacho and Florencio T. Deleon Guerrero were excused.

Speaker Fitial: A quorum is duly constituted for the Eighth Day of our Second Regular Session. All members absent are excused.

ADOPTION OF JOURNALS

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, during Friday's session, journals were passed out and that is on the Sixth Day. With that, Mr. Speaker, I so move for the adoption of the Sixth Day of our Second Regular Session journal.

Sixth Day, Second Regular Session (8/17/00)

The motion to adopt the Sixth Day, Second Regular Session journal was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. I had informed the leadership this morning, that we are going to have a presentation of the Resolution, which we adopted several days ago, but I believe the recipient is not possible to be present. So, we will reschedule the presentation until Representative Pangelinan advises the most appropriate and convenient time.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

None

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

None

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I believe earlier, copies of Standing Committee Report No. 12-149 was circulated, with that, Mr. Speaker, I request the indulgence of the members to insert it on Item No. 12, Mr. Speaker. And also, Mr. Speaker, I now move for the adoption of Standing Committee Report No. 12-149, reference to House Bill No. 12-52.

S. C. R. NO. 12-149: Reporting on House Bill No. 12-52, entitled, “To amend 1 CMC §§ 7821 and 7831 (§§ 206 and 300 (b) of Public Law 3-91, the Commonwealth Auditing Act of 1983) to repeal and reenact 4 CMC §§ 10413 (§ 22 of Public Law 4-49) to repeal 1 CMC 2306 (b) (§ 205 (b) of Public Law 3-91); and for other purposes.” *Your Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends passage of the bill.*

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries.

BILL CALENDAR

The Chair recognized the Floor Leader.

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I so move, Mr. Speaker, for the suspension of Rule IX, Sections 9 and 10 for the placement and passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-52, under Standing Committee Report No. 12-149.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Rep. Peter: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Representative Peter?

Rep. Peter: Which we are discussing on the Bill, right?

Speaker Fitial: No, suspension.

Rep. Peter: I'm sorry.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Passage motion, Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I move for the passage on First and Final Reading House Bill No. 12-212, Committee Draft 1.

The motion was seconded.

H. B. NO. 12-212, CD1: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE WEAPONS CONTROL ACT TO PROMOTE AND ALLOW RESORT DEVELOPMENTS OFFERING TARGET RANGES FOR COMPETITIVE RIFLE COMPETITION, AND SKEET SHOOTING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, since copies have been passed out to the members, I wish to officially introduce a House Draft 1, to replace the pending Bill on the Calendar. The Amendment is shown as bolded, starting from pages 2, 3 and 4, and with that, Mr. Speaker, I so move.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion on the propose amendment? Representative Heinz Hofschneider?

Rep. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to offer a subsidiary motion to the propose amendment in the form of a written Floor Amendment.

The motion was seconded.

FLOOR AMENDMENT

On page 2 of 4, line 7: Strike out the words “and handgun”.

Lines 25-26: Strike out the words “handgun competition”.

On page 3 of 4, line 5: Strike out the words “or handgun” and add the word “or” after the word “rifle”.

Line 6: Strike out the words “32 caliber, 38 caliber, 45 caliber”.

Speaker Fitial: Do you have your amendment in writing? –

Rep. Hofschneider: I so move, Mr. Speaker.

Rep. Attao: Second.

Speaker Fitial: I believe all the members have a copy of the proposed Floor Amendment. It has been moved and seconded, discussion on the subsidiary Floor Amendment?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the intent of the amendment. I assume, Representative Hofschneider, is very concern with respect to the liabilities and securities of the resort. However, the intent of HB No. 12-212 is to lure other than guest of shooting galleries, a different type of shooting sports club that we anticipate to put the CNMI in one of the Olympic type of sports. By passing the amendment, deleting the use of certain firearms as, Representative Hofschneider's amendment purports to do, we're to definitely diminish the ability of luring big groups of shooting clubs to the Commonwealth, Mr. Speaker, that is a concern of mine. Thank you.

Rep. Hofschneider: Clarification, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: State your point of clarification.

Rep. Hofschneider: Since yesterday's discussing zeroed in on the purposes to not only the good, Floor Leader, shared with us this morning to attract or to lure other shooting clubs. But yesterday's discussion also focused on amenities in the Commonwealth to provide for Olympic training and I share that notion. However, I just firmly believe that, the resort will still be able to operate with full intentions and even attract Olympic hopefuls even with elimination of the handgun provision. All I am doing is eliminating handgun provision. That, we can send a message that we are sincere and we welcome any investor who wants to bring Olympic hopefuls and visitors who wants to patronize such resort without having the handgun provision. The clarification on the amendment is strictly alluding to the handgun provisions, 9 mm, I believe, also rifle borne, which is still consistent, the 12 gauge is left in...

Speaker Fitial: Can we pause? Because, I think everybody is out of order. We cannot discuss the subsidiary proposed amendment without passing the primary proposed amendment because both amendments are still proposed. So, we have to dispose of one

amendment then come in with the other amendment, otherwise, we will be discussing in the air. All discussions will be fruitless.

Rep. Hofschneider: Mr. Speaker, may I make a point?

Speaker Fitial: In other words, House Draft 1, has to be adopted first before your proposed amendment can be entertained.

Rep. Hofschneider: Mr. Speaker, Mason allows for multiple rules, multiple motions. One of the rules in Mason's side is that, a main motion maybe overtaken by a subsidiary motion without disposing of the main motion.

Speaker Fitial: Right. The main motion is to pass a Committee Draft 1, and now, we have a subsidiary motion, which will be to amend Committee Draft 1, and that is the House Draft 1, proposed by Representative Babauta. So, until such propose amendment is acted on, we cannot entertain another sub-sub amendment.

Rep. Hofschneider: Yes, we could, Mr. Speaker, and clearly, the rules permit that. When you open up for discussion the main motion, which is the propose amendment by the good, Floor Leader, it opens up for amendment.

Speaker Fitial: Right.

Rep. Hofschneider: It opens the main motion for amendment when we go into discussion. Therefore, the rule applies that the subsidiary motion is in order to amend the main motion.

Speaker Fitial: We need to dispose of the first amendment before we could entertain the second amendment.

Rep. Hofschneider: If that is your desire, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: That way, we will not be confusing on the main motion, which is to pass the Committee Draft 1.

Rep. Hofschneider: Then, I withdraw the subsidiary motion.

Speaker Fitial: Thank you. So, we're discussing now the propose Floor Amendment offered by Representative Babauta.

Floor Leader Babauta: Ready.

The motion to pass the Floor Amendment offered by Floor Leader Babauta was carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The motion carries. Now, we are discussing the main motion to pass House Bill No. 12-212, Committee Draft 1, and now, House Draft 1. Representative Hofschneider, you may introduce your Floor Amendment.

Rep. Hofschneider: I so move, Mr. Speaker.

The motion was seconded.

Speaker Fitial: Discussion? Recognized, Representative Hofschneider.

Rep. Hofschneider: Discussion on the Floor Amendment, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. I honestly believe that, we could welcome these investors in even without the handgun provision. I honestly believe that no matter how good the law that we provide in terms of regulating movements of handguns for instance, or firearms in general, the fact that we will allow it would increase the risk. Now, the penalty section is needed and it in fact improves the Bill itself. But I don't think that anyone here or out there in the public can honestly feel that this provision would surprise when an incident, just one incident, of a handgun being carelessly handled and ends up taking the life of one person. I don't think that we can surmise that any penalty would be worth the life of one person. Handgun, because of its nature being physically small, it can be easily concealed, can be easily transported, can be easily misplaced, and therefore, I offer this in sincerity, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, let us give it a try. If in fact the resort people feel the same way as this community does, I think we can still allow pressurized air handguns to be used as a target or training purposes for as far as Olympic hopefuls. But to allow in this legislation handguns, my consciences does not permit me to allow this legislation without amending it. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Further discussion? Representative Rosiky Camacho?

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: Clarification, Mr. Speaker, is this resort an indoor or an outdoor range?

Rep. Hofschneider: May we stick to the Order of Business, Mr. Speaker, and let --

Speaker Fitial: We are discussing the Floor Amendment offered by Representative Hofschneider.

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: The reason why I ask that, Mr. Speaker, is because I want to tie in the security or the safeness of the handgun in an open door and an indoor type of usage.

Rep. Hofschneider: No objection.

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader, you may respond to that.

Floor Leader Babauta: What is the question, again?

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: My question is, this resort or shooting gallery, is it an indoor activity or an outdoor activity?

Floor Leader Babauta: I guess, Mr. Speaker, to satisfy, Representative Camacho, it could be both, indoor and outdoor.

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: So, my next question is --

Floor Leader Babauta: -- On the amendment?

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: Yes, on the amendment. If we do accept the striking out of the handgun, will this diminish the intent of the legislation and also will this probably loosen proposition to the tourism industry in general?

Floor Leader Babauta: Yes, it could be, Mr. Speaker.

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: The next clarification, Mr. Speaker, is, the present statute only allows rifle to be own?

Floor Leader Babauta: Yes, with the exception of law enforcement personnel.

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: Next, with lack of knowledge of what guns -- what is the difference in terms for purpose of killing, but the purpose of strength in terms of the rifle and a handgun?

Floor Leader Babauta: No difference. If it is in the right spot, you die. It is similar to the spear gun.

Rep. Rosiky Camacho: Mr. Speaker, my greatest concern about all these is, we are the middle of policy decision. One of the things, I think it's just too hard to make on a policy when we look at the emotion versus issue. Sometimes we get our message across based on the emotion. But there are also times that we do emotion to get our message across, its reasonable. But when we take emotion and try to imply to defeat a purpose of a policy, I think there is something that we need to break apart. Mr. Speaker, that is my greatest concern. Also with that, I for one, don't have either of these, handgun or rifle. So for me, I stand still that it is safe with its only proper place with a person. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Rep. Jones: Just a clarification, are we just discussing the propose amendment?

Speaker Fitial: Right now.

Rep. Jones: Right now. And after that we are going into the vote?

Speaker Fitial: Right.

Rep. Jones: Mr. Speaker, if this amendment passes, then in my opinion, it will defeat the intent of the bill. I agree with the previous speaker, that gun is meant to kill. Be it life of people or life of animals. If we are going to be concern of life of the people and life of animals, then, I believe we should ban the importation and the selling of guns completely. Only government with authority should be permitted to be armed with a gun and that is the Department of Public Safety. Now, economically speaking, if this is what the investors are requesting in order to ensure and secure their investment, do we close our door? So, one has to do with the life of the people and the other one has to do with the economics. And again, if we are concern about guns killing people and animals, then let us ban completely the importation and the selling of guns. I remember introducing a Bill that we should get rid of all guns in the Northern Marianas. In fact, to the point where the government will buy all guns so that we can eliminate if not minimize all guns because all guns are intended to kill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: It is getting to be interesting. Representative Pangelinan?

Rep. Pangelinan: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I am for control system for any guns. The question was posed, what is the difference between a rifle and a handgun? To look at the national statistics, handguns can be easily concealed that is why it is so dangerous. It can easily be transported, it can easily be passed on to other people, and if you look at the national statistics, handguns are the number one killer of human beings because it can easily be concealed. Rifle, how can you conceal it, it is long and it is heavy. And frequently, I heard from my colleagues using the word "Olympic", first of all, what kind of Olympics? We are not members of the IOC, so we cannot participate in the Olympics because we are not members. We applied for many years to become member of the International Olympic Committee, but we are not members of that Olympic, maybe the South Pacific Games for instance, but South Pacific Games have no rifle competition. I guess the resort could easily be satisfied with the rifles instead of the handguns. My colleague, Rosiky, emotions -- you know, emotions are build through experience and when we are talking about guns, people become emotional. Naturally, because you bring in dangerous merchandise to the island, you place the island in a high risk environment. No question about it. So, I am a supporter of Representative Hofschneider's amendment, to strike out "handguns". While other nations are banning guns, we are opening our doors to many others. I guess we have opened our doors so wide for investors to come that at the present time, we have difficult time closing our doors to protect our own people. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Apatang?

Rep. Apatang: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a clarification, I am just wondering if we decide to go ahead and allow the removal of handgun if this particular issue still qualifies as part of the International Sports Shooting Federation, since the sports federation actually requires all kind of marksmanship and if we eliminate the handgun will that actually

disqualify this particular resort as part of the major international competition? That is my clarification. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Well, if we eliminate handgun, we eliminate also the investment. Because, it's true, this Bill deals with the use of guns, but we have to look at it with open mind because guns do kill people. But in this particular case, this Bill is saying that, with the use of these guns it will also improve the lives of people with the economic benefit that this investment will provide. So, here, we are looking at two issues dealing with guns. The intent of this Bill is not to allow or permit people in the Commonwealth to use handguns. The intent of the Bill is to allow these shooting resorts to use handguns and by the use of these handguns, this investment is intended to benefit the people of the Commonwealth with the realization of the economic benefits that will be derive from this investment. So, we have to look at it. This is a policy issue, of course, but we are not allowing the handguns to be used by all people in the Commonwealth. We have to be mindful that it is under the Constitution that we have the right to bear arms, but we are not allowing the people out there to bear handguns. The people are already allowed to use rifles for protection and also for amusement. But in this Bill, we are only allowing the shooting resort to use handguns to provide the benefits that we as policymakers are going to decide whether we like this type of benefit or not, simple as that. Let us not confuse the two, because we are not allowing the use of handguns by everybody. This is only for the shooting resort, not even including the shooting galleries because the shooting galleries will not be qualified to use handguns if this Bill ever becomes law.

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Representative Attao?

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker, I am just wondering whether or not the investor is asking for different kind of calibers? If yes, I would like to see that particular document. Probably, we are just amending the existing statute to include beyond what the investor is requesting. So, can we have a copy of the requested information with respect to the calibers?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, not necessarily that the investor requested but the potential investors has extracted what is allowable under the International Sports Shooting Federation in terms of the arm itself and also as sanctioned by the NRA. So, this doesn't come out from the author or rather the Committee, it was clearly an official requirement that the ISSF put together and can be seen at www.issf.com. It is a public record.

Speaker Fitial: In other words, there is no specific investor requesting for this type of caliber?

Floor Leader Babauta: They didn't request. They just sort of extract it from what is required from the ISSF promulgated rules and regulation compatible with the NRA usage so they submit as a request. That is the reason why they are required that the ISSF be incorporated in the Bill as a guidance.

Rep. Attao: Mr. Speaker, even if we are to follow -- what do you call that?

Speaker Fitial: ISSF?

Rep. Attao: Yes, the ISSF -- even if we are to follow that rules and procedure that doesn't mean that we have to comply with all the necessary guns that is allowed under that? We can eliminate some of it if the investor is requesting then probably we can accommodate it. Otherwise, we can eliminate all those calibers. We don't have to follow the specific caliber that is allowed under ISSF.

Speaker Fitial: The next question would be, if we remove handguns would the investors still invest?

Floor Leader Babauta: I doubt it, Mr. Speaker. Handguns are included in the International Sports Shooting Federation and so as the NRA competitive shooting.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Peter?

Rep. Peter: Mr. Speaker, I understand the need of investment here in the CNMI. I also understand the danger of guns. So, if I were to support or to make decision on this particular Bill, with all due respect to the author and others that are supporting it, Mr. Speaker, I feel that my obligation is to make sure that we do not open up and opportunity to bring in anything that will later on affect the livelihood of the people, the welfare of the people here in the CNMI. I cannot allow myself, Mr. Speaker, this morning to support the Bill whether it is amended or be acted upon without being amended. My conscience, my whole being is telling me that it will not be right for me to support such Bill. I just want to air that. Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Hofschneider?

Rep. Hofschneider: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that the author, the Floor Leader, clarified something, it even strikes me more to question, why 5.46 mm caliber, and this includes, 5.56, if I am not mistaken, is an assault rifle caliber equivalent to -- can we just try and see if the investor in fact would reject it? I believe that there are some things that we must rise to and I know, and I fully support the intention of trying to revive the economy, but there are certain things that we just cannot in good conscience compromise on behalf of the economics. One of those is, the limitation to certain constitutional rights. Now, Representative Jones, eloquently put it that, he would rather do away with all firearms. But he, as well as everyone in this room, is cognizant of the constitutional right to bear arm. We

can't do that. The fact remains that there are certain activities that even if we like for instance, prostitution, the oldest profession and money making for the individual, and yet, we adhere to some prudence in terms of public fit, it is not conforming to societies for this particular --

Speaker Fitial: Especially when they allow IOU.

Rep. Hofschneider: Especially when they allow IOU. But, Mr. Speaker, I beg that we give this Floor Amendment a shot and eliminate the most critical aspect of the legislation. Now, 12 gauge is one of those calibers that had been banned. Maybe the history behind it was, I believe someone was shot to death with a 12 gauge shotgun and prompted the enactment of law prohibiting beyond 410 gauge, 12 gauge, if it is used properly as opposed to a handgun, which you can honestly conceal. We are talking about the gun itself that is one. The ammunition, how many in this room honestly know of illegal handguns that we remain quiet about? The permission under this legislation to allow 45 caliber for instance, would have the opportunity for these handguns to be misuse? I ask the indulgence, please search with good intention. Representative Rosiky Camacho pointed out that we must part from the emotions of the text. Unless human beings are dictated by robotic means, there is no physical way that you can part yourself with emotion. Logic and proper process of thinking is generated from feelings, understanding and knowledge, not by some means on a keyboard that you can part your self from. There is no emotion governing handgun. Simply put, if Japan and Korea outlaw handguns in their countries and they have full fledge membership to International Olympic Committee, why are we opening our doors for something that is banned from these countries? What is it? Are we so unique that when you come to Saipan at sea level, your targets improve? I don't think so. Mr. Speaker, just for your information, there was a sting operation couple of months back, there was sensitive information passed through our DPS that tourists were being brought out five miles out from shores and target practice is being conducted in open ocean, handguns are being used because it is illegal on island. UZI, 9 mm UZI's, these are military outfits being used. Can you imagine a tourist paying \$15.00 to \$20.00 a slug? Just to hold a handgun in their hands and fire at the target from five miles from shore. Now, on the economic side, there is a market. People want to shoot a handgun, but look at the under lying, the pinning problem with it? They had the audacity to smuggle in illegal handguns and illegal automatic weapons and we have a full fledge Public Safety officers. We have a tight law that prohibits it, makes it unlawful, a criminal act, yet, it is happening. No matter what language you put, the minute you permit it to legally enter, you have raised the bar of probability of those handguns and ammunitions to end up in a person hand with malicious intentions. Thank you.

Rep. Jones: Mr. Speaker?

Rep. Attao: Ready.

Floor Leader Babauta: Ready.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Jones?

Rep. Jones: Mr. Speaker, can anybody tell me how many people have injured or shot to death in a shooting gallery in Saipan?

Speaker Fitial: None.

Rep. Jones: Representative Hofschneider mentioned that some people were reported to have shooting out in the open ocean. If you take a look at shooting out in the open ocean and take a look at a shooting gallery being no injured or shot to death, what makes it not possible for somebody to be injured or not being shot? The answer in my opinion is, there is a protection, a protection in a confined area, which this Bill provides for, protection. Second, how many of these injuries caused by guns and how many died because of guns? Where do this happen? On the road, in the car, in night-club, at the farm, in bed, and ask ourselves, why do these things happen out in the open space? The simple answer is, it is not controlled, it is not confined. That is why I brought back the idea that if we are sincere that life is precious and gun is murder then let us amend the Constitution through initiative. But we are facing an economic crisis that we cannot even employ many of our people. We can't even pay those people who need to be compensated for land being taken by the government. We can't even pay for PL 7-31, for those that we owe money through salary adjustment. I am trying to find the logic behind having a shooting gallery and having a shooting resort. They are both in a confined area with strict local regulations. Along with that we have the -- whatever you call that, international organization -- that has to be followed. I cannot understand why we can permit shooting galleries to go on? I can understand that, but I cannot understand why we continue to let people use guns and these guns kill people. Whether intentional or non-intentional, the fact of the matter is, it kills people, it injures people. So, that is why I am standing on the position that, if we really care for the life of the people, please, let us change the Constitution and ban it in its entirety owning and importation and selling of guns in the Northern Marianas. That is the only best way that we can agree to secure safety of everybody. Only the government authority, the Department of Public Safety, should be armed because that is aimed to protect people twenty-four hours, especially on land. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Rep. Hofschneider: Point of clarification, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: State your point of clarification.

Rep. Hofschneider: Mr. Speaker, the argument put forth by Representative Jones is dangling at the edge of indecency. If he meant the full text of his statement that he in good conscience wants to protect the public and wants to amend the Constitution, then don't be duplicitous in supporting just the contrary.

Rep. Jones: Point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, I request to clarify that. What does he mean by that statement?

Rep. Hofschneider: Simply the way I put it, Mr. Speaker.

Rep. Jones: So, I respect his opinion.

Speaker Fitial: Representative Jones is stating facts that people who have died from guns, this occurrence happens outside of the shooting galleries. There has not been an incident of people getting killed.

Rep. Hofschneider: For the reason that we have not allow a handgun yet. Would the facts be different at handguns been introduce?

Speaker Fitial: People had been killed by handguns outside of the shooting gallery and we haven't allowed handguns yet.

Rep. Hofschneider: Exactly the point. Thank you for answering what I've been trying to say.

Speaker Fitial: But, they have been killed by handgun.

Rep. Hofschneider: Exactly, Mr. Speaker, that, we cannot permit it under this legislation, exactly.

Speaker Fitial: This confined as Representative Jones pointed out. Confined and well-regulated and well control. The reason why people are dying from gun is because they were not controlled and that is outside of the shooting gallery. That is his point.

Rep. Jones: That was my point.

Speaker Fitial: We are going to be voting on the Floor Amendment -- if we vote on this Floor Amendment in essence, we will be voting for the Bill because if we pass this Floor Amendment, then we will be passing the Bill. Okay -- Roll call.

Rep. Jones: Point of clarification, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: State your point.

Rep. Jones: If we pass the Floor Amendment, then it changes the intent of the Bill?

Speaker Fitial: If we pass the Amendment, then there will be no handguns in the Bill.

Rep. Jones: Thank you.

Speaker Fitial: Let us just vote on the Floor Amendment first so that everybody will be clear. The Floor Amendment is to remove "handguns" from the Bill as offered by Representative Hofschneider. Roll call.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to adopt the Floor Amendment offered by Representative Hofschneider, as follows:

Rep. Martin B. Ada	excused
Rep. David M. Apatang	no
Rep. Jesus T. Attao	yes
Rep. Oscar M. Babauta	no
Rep. Diego T. Benavente	excused
Rep. Antonio M. Camacho	excused
Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho	no
Rep. Florencio T. Deleon Guerrero	excused
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	yes
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	abstained
Rep. Dino M. Jones	no
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	abstained
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	abstained
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	yes
Rep. Maria "Malua" T. Peter	no
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	yes
Rep. William S. Torres	abstained
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	no

Speaker Fitial: The Floor Amendment is defeated.

Floor Leader Babauta: Ready for the main motion, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Fitial: Now, are you ready for the main motion? The main motion stands without the Floor Amendment, which we just defeated. So, roll call on the main motion.

Floor Leader Babauta: Clarification, Mr. Speaker. We are voting on House Bill No. 12-212, Committee Draft 1, House Draft 1.

The Clerk called the roll on the motion to pass House Bill No. 12-212, CD1, HD1, on First and Final Reading as follows:

Rep. Martin B. Ada	excused
Rep. David M. Apatang	yes
Rep. Jesus T. Attao	yes
Rep. Oscar M. Babauta	yes
Rep. Diego T. Benavente	excused

Rep. Antonio M. Camacho	excused
Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho	yes
Rep. Florencio T. Deleon Guerrero	excused
Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider	no
Rep. Brigida DLG. Ichihara	abstained
Rep. Dino M. Jones	yes
Rep. Alejo M. Mendiola, Jr.	abstained
Rep. Norman S. Palacios	abstained
Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan	no
Rep. Maria "Malua" T. Peter	no
Rep. Stanley T. Torres	no
Rep. William S. Torres	abstained
Speaker Benigno R. Fitial	yes

Speaker Fitial: House Bill No. 12-212, Committee Draft 1, House Draft 1, passes the House on First and Final Reading.

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Fitial: Floor Leader?

Floor Leader Babauta: Mr. Speaker, because several members wishes to attend a twelve noon rosary. With the indulgence of the members, I would like to move to recess early until two o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Speaker Fitial: The House stands recess until 2:00 p.m. tomorrow.

The House recessed at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan P. Kaipat, Journal Clerk
House of Representatives