TWELFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1974 (SECOND) Regular Session

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## CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Bill No. 566, An Act to amend Section 1001 of the Civil Code of Cuam relative to the territorial power of eminent domain, and to repeal and reenact Chapter X of Title IX of the Government Code of Guam relative to registration and regulation of firearms", was on the 21th day of February, 1974 duly and regularly passed.

RAMIREZ Speaker

ATTESTED:

BAMBA G. М.

Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by the Governor this  $26\pi$  day of  $20\pi$  1974 at 10:20 o'clock  $\alpha$ .M.

**/s/ KEITH L.** ANDREWS KEITH L. ANDREWS Attorney General of Guam

APPROVED:

CARLOS G. CAMACHO Governor of Guam

DATED:

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## TWELFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1973 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 566

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Introduced by P. J. Bordallo

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1001 OF THE CIVIL CODE OF GUAM RELATIVE TO THE TERRITORIAL POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN, AND TO REPEAL AND REENACT CHAPTER X OF TITLE IX OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE OF GUAM RELATIVE TO REGISTRATION AND REGULATION OF FIREARMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM: Section 1. Section 1001 of the Civil Code of Guam is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1001. Acquisition of property by exercise of eminent domain. The government of Guam shall have power to acquire property by the exercise of eminent domain."

Section 2. Chapter X of Title IX of the Government Code of Guam is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

## "CHAPTER X

## Firearms

Section 8900. As used in this Chapter:

(a) 'Firearm' means any weapon, the operating force of which is an explosive. This definition includes pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns, machine guns, automatic rifles, noxious gas projectors, mortars, bombs, cannon and submachine guns. The specific mention of certain weapons does not exclude from the definition other weapons operated by explosives.

(b) 'Pistol' or 'revolver' means any firearm of any shape whatever, and designed to be fired with one hand with a barrel less than twelve inches (12") in length and capable of discharging loaded ammunition or any noxious gas. (c) 'Rifle' means a firearm designed, made, redesigned or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger, and shall include any such firearm which may be readily restored to fire loaded ammunition, and any antique rifle or long gun, regardless of the type of charge or projectile used, which is capable of being used as a weapon.

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(d) 'Shotgun' means any firearm designed, made, redesigned or remade and intended to be fired from the shoulder and to fire through a smooth barrel either a number of projectiles (ball shot) or a single projectile, and shall include any such firearm which may be readily restored to fire any of the above, and shall also include any firearm of any age designed and capable of firing the above-mentioned projectiles.

(e) The terms 'Director' and 'Department' means the Director of Public Safety and the Department of Public Safety respectively.

Section 8900.1. This Chapter shall not apply to:

(a) Law enforcement officers when using firearms authorized by the Director in their official duty.

(b) Persons in the Armed Forces of the United States engaged in official duty.

(c) Devices which are not designed or redesigned for use as a weapon. Any device, although originally designed as a firearm, which has been redesigned, or was designed initially for use as, a signalling, pyrotechnic, linethrowing, safety, industrial or similar device, surplus ordnance sold, loaned or given by the Secretary of the Army pursuant to the provisions of Sections 4684(2),

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4685 or 4686 of Title 10 of the United States Code is not covered by this Chapter.

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Section 8901. Ownership, etc. of certain firearms prohibited. The manufacture, possession, sale, barter, trade, gift, transfer, or acquisition of any machine guns, sub-machine guns, automatic rifles or any other firearm not a rifle having a barrel length of sixteen (16) inches or greater, or not a shotgun having a barrel length of eighteen (18) inches or greater, or a revolver or pistol having a barrel length of more than twelve (12) inches is prohibited. Mufflers, silencers, or devices for deadening the sound of discharged firearms are also prohibited. Any person violating this section shall be imprisoned for a term of not less than two years nor more than five years, without probation.

Section 8901.1. Ownership, etc. permitted. Any person who qualifies under this Chapter may lawfully own, possess, use or carry any rifle, shotgun, pistol or revolver not prohibited by Section 8901 subject to the conditions and penalties provided in this Chapter.

Section 8901.2. Dealer, etc. must register. A y person who is in the business of selling, buying, renting, or trading any firearm shall register with the Department of Public Safety under the terms and conditions set forth in this Chapter and the rules and regulations adopted hereunder before engaging in any of the above activities. The term 'in the business of' shall mean any person, natural or legal, who engages in the above activities for profit or who so engages on behalf of others, but shall not include private sales, loans, gifts or transfers of lawfully possessed firearms which have been registered and possessed under the provisions of Sections 8901.1 and

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8903 of this Chapter.

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Section 8902. Identification card required. No person shall own, possess, use, carry or acquire any firearm which is lawful under Section 8901.1 unless he shall have first obtained from the Department an identification card evidencing his right to such ownership, possession, use or carrying, concealed or otherwise, as stated upon the face of the Card. Said Card shall be in the possession of the holder and on his person whenever he is using or has in his possession a firearm.

Section 8902.1. Identification cards shall have on their face all the following:

1. The name, address, sex, height, and weight of the holder, his birthdate, Social Security number, if any, or Guam I.D. number, if any, and the expiration date of the card which shall be three years after the holder's next birthday.

 A photograph of the holder taken immediately prior to issuance.

3. An indication of the type of firearm which may be owned, used, carried, possessed or acquired by the holder. and whether or not the holder may carry the firearm concealed.

4. A number, unique to the holder, which shall also be assigned to all registration records concerning firearms possessed by the holder.

Section 8902.2. (a) No identification card shall issue unless the Department is satisfied that the applicant may lawfully possess, use, carry, concealed or otherwise, own, or acquire the type of firearm stated in the application and upon the face of the identification card.

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	1	(b) No person shall be issued an identification card:
	2	(1) Who has been convicted by any court of the
	3	United States, a state, territory, possession,
1		Trust Territory or political subdivision thereof
	5	of any felony, or
	5	(2) Who is an alien, except temporary permits
	,	may be issued aliens for use only at target ranges
8		operated by persons possessing permits therefor and
9		who are citizens, or only for use at authorized
10		sporting events, and except for official represen-
11		tatives of foreign governments in their official
12		capacities, or
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14	-	(3) Who is under indictment for any crime stated
15		in (b) (1) above, or
		(4) Who has been adjudicated incompetent, has
16		been committed to any mental institution, or
17		(5) Who is under the age of eighteen (18)
18		years, or
19		(6) Who has been convicted of any violation of
20		the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act or
21	· .	any misdemeanor where personal injury or use of fire-
22	1 1 1	arms was an element or factor of the offense unless
23		the Director has determined that the offense was
24		committed more than ten (10) years previously and
25		that the applicant would not endanger the public
26		safety by receiving an identification card, or
27		(7) Who, in the determination of the Director,
28		appears to suffer from a physical or mental disease
29	-	or defect which would adversely affect the safe use
30		of the firearm applied for, unless the person obtains
31		a certificate from a licensed physician stating that

the physical or mental disease or defect would not adversely affect his safe operation of the firearm or the public safety.

(c) An applicant for an identification card shall apply therefor on a form supplied by the Department and shall supply such information as may be necessary to afford the Department reasonable opportunity to ascertain the facts required to appear upon the card and facts relevant to the applicant's eligibility for a card, and facts necessary to determine whether the applicant may carry a concealed weapon if such permission is sought.

(d) If the application is not denied, the identification card shall issue within thirty (30) days, except where application has been made to carry a concealed weapon, in which case the card shall issue within sixty (60) days.

(e) For purposes of this Chapter, the term 'concealed' when used in connection with any firearm whatsoever shall mean a firearm which is carried on a person or within a vehicle in such a manner that it cannot be seen by the naked eye, but would be available for use by the person concealing or attempting to conceal the firearm or any other person aware of the firearm's existence. A firearm is not concealed when it is within a locked portion of any vehicle, unloaded, with the ammunition stored outside of the firearm or any clip or ammunition storage chamber attached to the firearm, and outside of the immediate reach of the person so placing the wepon or any other person knowing of its existence. A finearm is concealed if, among other things, it is hidden beneath any article of clothing so that only the shape is visible, but not the firearm itself.

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Section 8902.3. Concealed firearms. No identification card shall issue permitting the holder to carry a concealed firearm of any nature unless the applicant shows exceptional cause therefor. Such exceptional causes shall include, but not be limited to facts which show that such concealment is absolutely necessary for an individual who is engaged in the protection of persons or property, or who shows that he has a genuine reason to fear for the safety of his person. or property and that a concealed firearm would materially lessen the danger. Such permission, once stated upon the identification card, shall not be renewed unless, at the time for renewal, the application shows a continuing need for such permission, using the standards for such permission as they exist at the time for renewal. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry any firearm concealed unless he has received permission to so carry such firearm and such permission is stated upon the face of his identification card.

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Section 8903. Registration. Any person purchasing, receiving by gift, devise or otherwise, acquiring or otherwise coming into permanent possession of a firearm, the possession of which is permitted by this Chapter, shall register the same with the Department within three (3) working days after acquiring said firearm on forms specified by the Department. Such facts and information shall be given so as to enable the Department to record for identification purposes the firearm so registered. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or possess any firearm which has not been registered. No firearm may be registered by the Department unless the person presenting the firearm also displays a current identification card evidencing his eligibility to own, possess,

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use or carry the firearm presented for registration. All firearms to be registered shall be presented to the Department for inspection as to the facts required for registration. Registration of firearms under this Chapter shall be valid so long as the weapon is in the possession of the registrant.

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Section 8903.1. Upon the transfer of any firearm from one person not a dealer, manufacturer, wholesaler or repairer to another not a dealer, manufacturer, wholesaler or repairer, other than on loan, a new registration must be obtained by the new owner or one permanently possessing the firearm, indicating the prior owner or possessor, and his identification card number, as well as all information pertinent to the new owner or possessor.

Section 8903.2. Upon transfer to a pawnbroker, and upon retransfer from the pawnbroker to either the owner or to another person, a new registration must be obtained.

Section 8904. (a) Upon the destruction, mutilation, loss or theft of any identification card, the holder shall report the event to the Department and may obtain a duplicate card upon the payment of the fee required therefor and upon proof of loss, mutilation, destruction or theft. If any portion of the original card remains, the holder must surrender it to the Department before receiving a duplicate.

(b) Upon the loss, theft, damage beyond repair to any firearm registered under this Chapter, the holder of the identification card applicable to the weapon in question shall report the event to the Department, along with the nature of the disposition of the firearm, if lost, destroyed or damaged beyond repair, and the same information shall be recorded upon the registration

- 8 -

records kept by the Department applicable to the firearm involved.

(c) The holder of any identification card or any person in whose name a firearm is registered shall report to the Department any change in the facts stated upon the card and any change in any facts which would affect the holder's eligibility to continue to possess a card.

(d) The holder shall report any of the events required to be reported by Subsections (a) and (b) above within three (3) working days of their occurrence and any of the events required to be reported by Subsection (c) within ten (10) days of their occurrence.

Section 8904.1. (a) No person may use or possess a firearm, regardless of ownership of the firearm, without possession of an identification card evidencing his eligibility to possess, use or carry such firearms.

(b) No person shall transfer, loan, give, sell either as a part of a business or individually, or permit the use of any firearm unless the person receiving the firearm has an identification card evidencing his eligibility to receive, possess, use and carry the type of firearm which he is to receive, borrow, use, buy or possess or carry.

(c) No person shall use, display, or carry with the intent to use or display, any identification card issued to another person, or any identification card which has expired, which has been suspended or revoked, or for which a duplicate has been issued, or which has been defaced or altered. No person shall use any of the above for the purpose of obtaining any firearm.

(d) No person shall wilfully alter, remove, or obliterate the name of the make, model, manufacturer's

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number, or other mark of identity of any firearm or ammunition. Possession of a firearm or ammunition upon which any mark of identity has been altered, removed, or obliterated shall be presumptive evidence that the possessor has altered, removed, or obliterated the same.

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(e) If any person, in complying with any of the requirements of this Chapter, knowingly gives false information, or knowingly offers false evidence of any of the facts required by the Department or by this Chapter, he shall be guilty of perjury and punished therefor as provided by Section 126 of the Penal Code. Additionally, upon conviction, such person shall not be eligible for an identification card for a period of ten years, and any existing identification card issued to such person shall be revoked, and any firearms possessed pursuant to such identification card forfeited.

Section 8905. Dealers, etc. must register. Any person who is a dealer, manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer of firearms or ammunition within the territory of Guam who must register pursuant to Section 8901.2 shall do so by supplying the Department with information required by it relative to the name of the business, name or names of the owners, whether the business is a corporation, sole proprietorship, partnership or any other form, relative to the types of firearms sold, manufactured, bought or repaired by such business, to the security of the storage areas of the business wherein the firearms are stored and any other information deemed necessary by the Department. Upon receipt of the necessary information, the Department shall issue a registration card, which shall be prominently displayed at the place of business of the person or firm so registered, and

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1 copies to be displayed at each location where firearms 2 are sold. 3 Section 8905.1. Any person or firm licensed pursuant 4 to Section 8901.2 shall, in the conduct of his business: 5 (1) Display no firearms or ammunition in any place 6 where they can be seen from outside the premises. 7 (2) Keep all firearms and ammunition in a securely 8 locked place at all times except when they are actually 9 being shown to a customer or when actually being repaired 10 or worked on. 11 (3) Permit only persons who are holders of identifi-12 cation cards making them eligible to purchase, possess and 13 use the firearms sold by the registrant or repaired by 14 the repair facility to have access to the firearms or 15 ammunition, except that nothing in this section shall 16 be construed to require a customer to show an identifi-17 cation card prior to his engaging in a transaction 18 for which an identification card is required by this 19 Chapter. 20 (4) Sell only to persons who have a valid identifi-21 cation card making them eligible to purchase, own 22 possess, use and carry the firearm or ammunition which 23 is the subject of the transaction.

> (5) Keep a continuing and up-to-date inventory of all firearms and ammunition in his possession and report the loss, theft, damage or destruction of the same to the Department immediately upon the discovery of the event.

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Section 8905.2. No person, other than the owner or possessor of a firearm, may accept any firearm for repair without having first been shown a valid identification card showing the person delivering the firearm to such person

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accepting it for repair to be eligible to possess the firearm in question. No firearm shall be returned to any person after repair or other work done on it without the repairer having seen the identification card of the one to whom the firearm is to be given.

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Section 8905.3. Any person engaging in a private sale, loan or other transfer of a firearm shall be shown by the person receiving the firearm an identification card evidencing the receiver's right to own, possess, use and carry such firearm. It shall be unlawful for a person to transact a private sale, loan, gift or transfer without having seen the valid identification card of the person receiving the firearm.

Section 8906. Rules and regulations. The Director may adopt, pursuant to the Administrative Adjudication Act, rules and regulations to implement this Chapter. Nevertheless, the absence of such rules and regulations shall not affect the implementation of this Chapter.

Section 8907. Prohibitions and penalties.

(a) For any violation of this Chapter or the rules and regulations adopted hireunder, where another penalty is not set forth specifically, any person, corporation, firm or business found guilty shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than one year, a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00); or both such fine and imprisonment. In the case of a corporation, business or other firm convicted of a violation of this Chapter, as a legal person, then the individual actually performing the acts forbidden or omitting the acts required shall be guilty in addition to the corporation, firm or business as an entity.

- 12 -

(b) Any person who carries a concealed firearm without a valid identification card evidencing permission to carry a concealed weapon shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment of not less than two nor more than five years, without probation, or both such fine and imprisonment.

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(c) Any person who knowingly removes, obliterates or alters the identifying marks of a firearm shall be punishable by a fine of not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisonment of not to exceed two (2) years or both such fine and imprisonment.

(d) Any person purchasing, possessing, using or carrying a firearm without an applicable identification card shall be punishable by a fine of not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment of not to exceed one year or both such fine and imprisonment.

(e) Any person who uses a firearm in the commission or attempted commission of any crime shall have his sentence increased by the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) if a fine be imposed, or by two years ci imprisonment without parole or suspension if imprisonment is imposed.

(f) Any person, legal or natural, who transfers, gives, returns, sells, or loans any firearm to any person without a valid identification card is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisonment for not more than one year or both such fine and imprisonment. In the case of violation by a legal person, the natural persons liable for punishment under this section in addition to said legal person shall be the person or persons performing the forbidden acts

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or omitting the required acts and any responsible officer of the legal person who knew or should have known of the acts or omissions committed.

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Section 8908. Fees. (a) The fee for each identification card, duplicate or renewal thereof shall be Five Dollars (\$5.00) and shall be paid to the Treasurer of Guam for the account of the Department of Public Safety before any identification card may be issued or renewed.

(b) The annual registration fee for every dealer, manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer and repairer shall be One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and shall be payable to the Treasurer of Cuam for the account of the Department of Public Safety before any such registration may be issued, renewed or a duplicate issued.

(c) The fee for registration of every firearm by an individual shall be Two Dollars (\$2.00) payable to the Treasurer of Guam for the account of the Department of Public Safety before any such registration may be issued or a duplicate issued.

(d) Registrations for dealers, retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers and repairer; shall be renewed annually at the same time as the business license is renewed, and shall be prorated on the same scale as is the business license for the establishment involved.

Section 8909. All registrations of weapons, issued under any prior law are hereby declared revalidated as of the date of enactment of this Act and shall be valid until the next birthday of the holder, at which time an identification card must be obtained and the firearms registered according to the provisions of this Chapter. This section does not apply to firearms owned, possessed, used or carried in a manner declared illegal by any

- 14 -

previous Act.

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Section 8909.1. Any firearm which cannot be legally owned, possessed, used or carried pursuant to this Act but which was legally possessed, owned, used or carried prior to the effective date of this Act may not be registered hereafter. However, the owner or possessor may retain said weapons until the time specified in Section 8909, at which time he must dispose of the firearm. If he cannot do so without loss to himself, the Department is authorized to purchase the firearm from the legal owner based upon the fair market value at the time of last eligibility to possess or own as stated in Section 8909, and keep or dispose of the firearm as the Director determines.

Section 8909.2. Upon the conviction of any violation of this Chapter or of any crime wherein the use of firearms was an element or part or was involved in the commission thereof, the firearms involved in the violation shall be declared forfeit by the court convicting such person and be given to the Department for its use, sale or destruction. In addition, the court shall either revoke the applicable identification card or business registration or suspend the same for a period of not less than six months nor for more than two years. In the case of a conviction of a business, the weapons shall be forfeited only where the registration is revoked. In the case of suspension of a business registration no firearms shall be sold.

Section 8909.3. Registry. The Department shall maintain a confidential registry, open only to law enforcement officials, of all firearms registered for the life of the weapon on Guam and for two years thereafter. However,

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once a firearm has been transferred and the registration cancelled in the name of the transferor, then the records of the transferor may be destroyed.

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Section 8910. New residents. Any United States citizen who is in legal possession of a firearm or ammunition thereof pursuant to the laws of any state, territory, possession or Trust Territory of the United States shall have a period of thirty (30) days after arriving on Guam as a new resident in which to apply for an identification card and during that period may continue to use the firearm and, for that purpose, the gun is legally in his possession until an identification card is issued or denied him. Thereafter, all provisions of this Chapter apply in full to such person and he must purchase, possess or use firearms only in compliance therewith. This section does not apply to any firearm which may not be legally possessed or used, carried or purchased under this Chapter. With respect to such firearms the provisions of Section 8909 shall apply except that under this section the new resident has thirty (30) days in which to comply. Further, this section does not apply to persons transiting Guam. Such transiting persons shall not have in their possession any firearm on Guam without first obtaining permission therefor from the Director.

Section 8910.1 Minors. Any person who is ineligible to possess an identification card solely by reason of his age may use a firearm, if said minor is over the age of ten (10) years, only in the presence and under the direct control of an adult possessing a valid identification card evidencing his eligibility to use the type of firearm being used by the minor.

- 16 -

Section 8910.2. If any provisions of this Chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall not effect other provisions or applications of this Chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Chapter are severable."

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