
Crime Bill Vote Speeded in House

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The House Rules Committee

cleared the way today for a possible vote on accepting the broader Senate-passed crime control bill which included gun control measures.

Twelve hours after the shooting of Sen. Robert Kennedy, the committee approved by a 10-5 vote a resolution of Rep. John B. Anderson (R-Ill.) that would make

send the measure to conference.

Anderson argued that the bill, if it went to conference to iron out differences, faced "delays and possible defeat."

The Senate version would bar interstate sale of handguns and their over-the-counter sales to nonresidents of a state.

But it would fall far short of the sweeping controls demanded by proponents of strict federal regulations on

it possible for a vote to be taken tomorrow without going through a House-Senate conference committee.

"If there is one matter for which the country is waiting, it is action on crime control," Anderson told the committee, of which he is a member.

The committee action was taken shortly before the House was scheduled to start debate on another motion to

the sale and shipment of all privately owned firearms.

Backers of such controls point to a sharply rising crime rate and to the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King.

Opponents — such as the National Rifle Association and groups of hunters and sportsmen — claim gun control laws would violate the constitutional guarantee to own and bear arms.
