

GUN CONTROL BILLS CALLED TOO COSTLY

WASHINGTON, July 24 (UPI) —The Nixon Administration told Congress today that proposed laws to register all guns in the United States and license their owners would be too costly and would intrude on the rights of states.

Spokesmen for the Administration testified before the Senate Juvenile Delinquency subcommittee against registration and licensing bills introduced by Senator Joseph D. Tydings of Maryland and Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut, both Democrats.

Eugene T. Rossides, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Donald E. Santarelli, Associate Deputy Attorney General, told the subcommittee that the Administration considered the new proposals too expensive and an infringement on the rights of state and local governments to enact their own gun control laws.

Senator Dodd, who is chairman of the subcommittee, rejected these arguments. "You've got to make your choice," he said. "You've got to decide whether you want this crime rate to go up and up each year or do you want to stop it? Are you going to say it's too much trouble?"

The Dodd and Tydings bills would require gun owners to register their weapons and obtain free licenses that would be good for five years.