

# Senate Kills Third Gun Bill

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WASHINGTON — The Senate today rejected a third attempt to strengthen a handgun control bill.

Turned down on a 75 to 16 roll call vote was an amendment by Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D-Ill.) to require registration of all handguns and licensing of owners.

Sen. Roman Hruska (R-Neb.) opposed the bill as unenforceable. He said in cities where such laws have been tried "they have failed and failed dismally."

"Why is it these laws are not successful?" Hruska asked. Answering himself, he said:

"Because the public does not support this type of law. It will not support an effort to enforce such laws."

A bill the Senate started debating yesterday would ban the sale of snub-nosed, easily concealed handguns not suitable for sporting purposes.

Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) the bill's chief sponsor, said it would take out of the marketplace the weapons most commonly used by criminals.

The Senate rejected 84 to 7 a substitute proposal by Sen. Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.) to outlaw private possession of all kinds of handguns. Owners who turned in their pistols or revolvers would be promptly compensated at fair-market value by the government.

Then the Senate defeated 78 to 11 an amendment by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) to require the registration of all firearms — rifles and shotguns as well as handguns — and state or federal licensing of all gun owners.

Kennedy said "the power and the influence of the National Rifle Association" were at work to defeat his amendment and Hart's bill.