

Senate, 68-25, Votes Ban On Snub-Nosed Handguns

Efforts to Strengthen or to Weaken Bill Defeated—Hruska Fails in Attempt to Allow Sales of Existing Stocks

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—Spurred by the attempted assassination of Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama, the Senate voted 68 to 25 today to ban the manufacture and sale of snub-nosed handguns.

Final passage of the gun-control bill came after three days of often emotional debate in which the Senate decisively rejected efforts to weaken or to stiffen the bill.

However, pro-gun forces scored one major victory yesterday by writing into the bill a repeal of controls over the sale of .22-caliber rimfire ammunition used in both sporting rifles and cheap handguns.

As cleared by the Senate and sent to the House, the bill would ban the manufacture and sale of short-barrel weapons such as the .22-caliber pistol used in the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy four years ago and the .38-caliber

pistol used in the critical wounding of Governor Wallace in May.

The House Judiciary Committee has held hearings on the gun-control measure, but it is uncertain whether the bill will be brought to a vote on the floor in the short period of time remaining before adjournment.

The primary target is the so-called "Saturday Night Special," the snub-nosed, low-cost, easily concealed gun used in a high percentage of murders and nonfatal shootings in the United States.

Pro-gun forces, backed by the nation's millions of sportsmen, waged a series of efforts today to strip away key controls but failed by wide margins.

At one point, Senator Birch Bayh, Democrat of Indiana,

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"this is no panacea" for the rash of killings and nonfatal shootings in the nation, but he said it would be "a step forward" in ridding the nation of the types of guns used in a majority of crimes.

The bill would not confiscate the many millions of cheap handguns now in private hands. However, it would encourage citizens to turn in their weapons voluntarily by agreeing to pay them the actual cost or \$25, whichever is higher.

The Treasury Department has estimated that about a million short-barrel handguns—the type the bill seeks to ban—are manufactured annually in the United States.

The existing law, enacted in 1968, prohibits the importation of most such weapons but does not prohibit importing of unassembled parts.

The Treasury has also estimated that there are now about 100 million guns, including

sporting weapons and handguns, in about 60 million American households.

The Senate, earlier this week, overwhelmingly rejected efforts by two Democratic Senators, Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and Philip A. Hart of Michigan, to broaden the Bayh bill to ban possession of all handguns, to require registration of all guns and to license all gun owners.

Yesterday's successful move to remove .22-rimfire ammunition from controls was supported by the Nixon Administration. Officials said that the record-keeping requirements had proved cumbersome and ineffective.

However, advocates of strong gun controls viewed the easing of restrictions over sale of rimfire as a serious blow. Rimfire is used not only in sporting rifles but also in such short-barrel handguns as the weapon that killed Senator Robert Kennedy.

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chief sponsor of the bill, threatened to vote against his own measure if the Senate adopted the proposed weakening amendments.

Later, Senator Bayh accused the Nixon Administration of working closely with Senator Roman L. Hruska, Republican of Nebraska, in attempting to "render the bill virtually meaningless."

The Hruska proposal, defeated 70 to 27, would have permitted licensed gun dealers to continue selling existing stocks of snub-nosed handguns, as well as second-hand weapons of that type.

The Hruska plan would have banned only the manufacture and importation of such new handguns that failed to win the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury after adequate testing.

The Senate also rejected, by a vote of 57 to 35, a proposal by Senator Ted Stevens, Republican of Alaska, to change the criteria under which the Secretary of the Treasury would determine which handguns were unsuitable for sporting purposes.

Senator Bayh protested that the Stevens proposal, too, would "gut the bill," and permit the continued flow into the market of guns that should be banned.

Under the Bayh bill, sales of snub-nosed revolvers would be limited to law-enforcement agencies and the military unless such weapons were found suitable for "lawful sporting purposes."

The bill lists, in great detail, the criteria to be used in testing the suitability for sporting purposes. These include overall size of weapon, safety features, weight and frame construction.

In hailing passage of his bill, Senator Bayh admitted that

Senate Roll-Call on Handgun Ban

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (AP)—Following is the 68-to-25 roll-call vote by which the Senate today passed the bill barring the sale of easily concealed handguns:

FOR THE BILL—68		
Democrats—38		
Anderson (N.M.)	Jordan (N.C.)	Gurney (Fla.)
Bayh (Ind.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Hatfield (Ore.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Long (La.)	Hruska (Neb.)
Byrd (Va.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Javits (N.Y.)
Byrd (W. Va.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Jordan (Idaho)
Chiles (Fla.)	McIntyre (N.H.)	Mathias (Md.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Muskie (Me.)	Miller (Iowa)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Nelson (Wis.)	
Edwards (La.)	Pastore (R.I.)	
Ervin (N.C.)	Proxmire (Wis.)	
Fulbright (Ark.)	Randolph (W. Va.)	
Harris (Okla.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)	
Hart (Mich.)	Sparkman (Ala.)	
Hartke (Ind.)	Spong (Va.)	
Hollings (S.C.)	Stevenson (Ill.)	
Hughes (Iowa)	Symington (Mo.)	
Humphrey (Minn.)	Talmadge (Ga.)	
Inouye (Hawaii)	Tunney (Calif.)	
Jackson (Wash.)	Williams (N.J.)	
Republican—30		
Aiken (Vt.)	Case (N.J.)	
Allott (Colo.)	Cook (Ky.)	
Beall (Md.)	Cooper (Ky.)	
Bellmon (Okla.)	Cotton (N.H.)	
Boggs (Del.)	Curtis (Neb.)	
Brock (Tenn.)	Dole (Kan.)	
Brooks (Mass.)	Fong (Hawaii)	
Buckley (N.Y.)	Griffin (Mich.)	
		Pearson (Kan.)
		Percy (Ill.)
		Roth (Del.)
		Scott (Pa.)
		Smith (Me.)
		Thurmond (S.C.)
		Young (N.D.)
AGAINST THE BILL—25		
Democrats—11		
Allen (Ala.)	Mansfield (Mont.)	
Bentsen (Tex.)	McClellan (Ark.)	
Bible (Nev.)	Montoya (N.M.)	
Cannon (Nev.)	Moss (Utah)	
Church (Idaho)	Stennis (Miss.)	
Gravel (Alaska)		
Republicans—14		
Baker (Tenn.)	Saxbe (Ohio)	
Bennett (Utah)	Schweiker (Pa.)	
Dominick (Colo.)	Stafford (Vt.)	
Fannin (Ariz.)	Stevens (Alaska)	
Goldwater (Ariz.)	Taft (Ohio)	
Hansen (Wyo.)	Tower (Tex.)	
Packwood (Ore.)	Weicker (Conn.)	
Paired: Mondale, D-Minn., for; Metcalfe, D-Mont., against. A pair is used to denote opposing positions when one Senator of the pair is absent and the other agrees to withdraw his vote.		