FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Government intends to lessen the potential for the commission of violent crimes and firearms-related incidents by reducing the number of firearms and ammunition circulating illegally in the State. In furtherance of this objective, the Government believes that the power to declare a firearms amnesty is one of the approaches which may help to achieve the stated objectives.

This Bill therefore seeks to amend the Firearms Act, Chapter 105 (the "principal Act") to empower the Minister to declare by Order subject to affirmative resolution a firearms amnesty in Grenada, or any part thereof.

This Bill contains **two (2) clauses**.

Clause 1 seeks to provide for the short title of the Act for which this is the Bill.

Clause 2 seeks to insert a new section 51A in the principal Act to empower the Minister to declare a firearms amnesty in Grenada or any part thereof, by Order subject to affirmative resolution. During the amnesty period, a person who is in unlawful possession of firearms or ammunitions may surrender the same in such manner as may be specified and no proceedings shall be taken against the person in respect of his or her unlawful possession of said firearm or ammunition.

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Sen. the Hon. Claudette Joseph
ATTORNEY-GENERAL

FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

1. Short title

2. Insertion of new section 51A to principal Act

FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

GRENADA

ACT NO. OF 2024

AN ACT to amend the Firearms Act, Chapter 105.

BE IT ENACTED by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Representatives and by the authority of the same as follows —

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the

FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024,

and shall be read as one with the Firearms Act, Chapter 105 hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act".

Insertion of new section 51A to principal Act

2. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 51 the following new section —

"**Power of Minister to declare firearms amnesty**

51A. (1) For the purposes of this section, "firearms amnesty" means an indemnity against prosecution for the unlawful possession of a firearm or ammunition.

(2) The Minister may, by Order subject to affirmative resolution, declare a firearms amnesty in Grenada or any part thereof, if the Minister is satisfied that —

(a) the firearms amnesty may result in a reduction in the number of illegally possessed firearms or ammunition in Grenada or any part thereof; and

(b) it is in the public interest to do so.

(3) An Order under subsection (1) shall specify —

(a) the duration of the firearms amnesty;

(b) the conditions under which the firearms amnesty may be granted;

(c) the place at which a firearm or ammunition may be surrendered; and

(d) the person with whom a firearm or ammunition may be surrendered.

(4) A firearm or ammunition surrendered pursuant to a firearms amnesty under this section shall be disposed of in such manner as may be prescribed.

(5) A person who surrenders a firearm or ammunition in compliance with an Order made under this section shall not be prosecuted for having been in possession of that firearm or ammunition contrary to the provisions of this Act.

Passed by the Houses of Representatives this day of 2024.

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Clerk to the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate this day of 2024.

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Clerk to the Senate