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ACT No. 17 of 2007

FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) ACT 2007

I assent,

Bharrat Jagdeo, President. 28th May, 2007.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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1. Short title

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2. Amendment of section 16 of the Principal Act.

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- Amendment of section 32 of the Principal Act. 3.
- Amendment of section 38 (1) of the Principal Act. 4.
- Amendment of section 39 of the Principal Act. 5.
- Amendment of section 44 of the Principal Act. 6.
- Insertion of new section 44A in the Principal Act. 7.

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AN ACT to amend the Firearms Act.

A.D. 2007

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:-

Short title and commencement. Cap. 16:05

1. This Act, which amends the Firearms Act, may be cited as the Firearms (Amendment) Act 2007 and shall come into operation on the date the Minister may, by order, appoint.

Amendment of section 16 of the Principal Act.

- 2. Section 16 of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution for subsections (2) and (3) of the following subsections as subsections (2) and (3)
 - "(2) Subject to this Act, if any person purchases, acquires or has in his possession any firearm or ammunition to which this Part applies without holding a firearm licence in force at the time, or otherwise than as authorized by such a licence, or, in case of ammunition, in quantities in excess of those so authorized, he shall be liable —
 - (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of not less than fifty thousand dollars nor more than one hundred thousand dollars together with imprisonment for not less than two years nor more than five years; and
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine of not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars nor more than five hundred thousand dollars together with imprisonment for ten years.
 - (3) If any person fails to comply with any condition subject to which a firearm licence is held by him, he shall, subject to this Act, be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of not less than fifty thousand dollars nor more than one hundred thousand dollars together with imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than three years."

Amendment of section 32 of the Principal Act.

- 3. Section 32 of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution for subsection (2) of the following subsection as subsection (2)
 - "(2) If any person contravenes subsection (1), he shall be liable –

- lake of part and the second (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of not less than light norm fifty thousand dollars nor more than one hundred that the second dollars together with imprisonment for not less than three years nor more than six years; and
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for not less than ten years nor more than fifteen years.".

Amendment of section 38 (1) of the Principal Act.

4. Section 38 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution for the words "on indictment to imprisonment for fourteen years and to whipping or flogging" of the words "on indictment to a fine of not less than fifty thousand dollars nor more than one hundred thousand dollars together with imprisonment for not less than five years nor more than sixteen years."

Amendment of section 39 of the Principal Act.

- 5. Section 39 of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution for subsection (4) of the following subsection as subsection (4)
 - "(4) If any person contravenes any of the foregoing provisions of this section, he shall for each offence be liable –
 - (a) on summary conviction, to a fine of not less than fifty thousand dollars nor more than one hundred thousand dollars together with imprisonment for not less than three years nor more than five years; and
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine of not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars nor more than five hundred thousand dollars together with imprisonment for not less than five years nor more than fifteen years."

Amendment of section 44 of the Principal Act. 6. Section 44 of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution for the words "five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for three years", of the words "three hundred thousand dollars and to imprisonment for five years".

Amendment of section 44A of the Principal 7. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion after section 44 of the following section as section 44A –

"Bail not to be granted in certain cases. 44A. No person arrested for any offence under section 16, section 37 or section 38 shall be admitted to bail, unless the prosecution has had an opportunity to intervene and unless there are special reasons for admitting the person to bail which shall be recorded in writing and the trial shall be within reasonable time.".

Passed by the National Assembly on 24th May, 2007.

S.E. Isaacs, Clerk of the National Assembly.

(BILL No. 14/2007)