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BE BRANCH,  
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TO EXEMPT CERTAIN SMALL FIREARMS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT

FEBRUARY 14, 1936.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. DOUGHTON, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 3254]

The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3254) to exempt certain small firearms from the provisions of the National Firearms Act, having had the same under consideration, report it back to the House without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

This bill amends section 1 (a) of the National Firearms Act, approved June 26, 1934, by exempting certain small firearms from the definition of the term "firearm" contained in said act.

The National Firearms Act defined the term "firearm" so as to include all rifles having a barrel less than 18 inches in length. It has come to the attention of your committee that under a strict technical interpretation of this definition a discrimination and hardship, which was never intended, has been inflicted upon two or three manufacturers of .22 and less caliber hunting rifles, due entirely to the type of gun manufactured by them, which are in fact less susceptible of being concealed on the person than other types of rifles, of the same caliber, not coming within the technical interpretation.

The type of rifle which this bill seeks to exempt are those employing the use of a chamber in connection with the barrel proper, but which is not considered as a part of the barrel under the technical interpretation of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

