

Please understand no law can attempt to mitigate lawless activity, it can only assist in prosecution of said activity.

The 2nd amendment is 2nd for good reason, it is very important to our democracy and our unique foundation of freedom in a world full of totalitarianism. Our unique freedoms are sacred to our society, erosion of them is tantamount to abolishment of them.

HB4145 sweeps broadly the definition of "household members" to include:

1. Spouses.
2. Former spouses.
3. Adult persons related by blood or marriage.
4. Persons cohabiting with each other.
5. Persons who have cohabited with each other or who have been involved in a sexually intimate relationship.
6. Unmarried parents of a minor child.

This clearly would step on individual 2nd amendment rights as well as Oregon Constitution Art. 1 Sec 27. This is just another feeble attempt to do something, even if it is wrong or unconstitutional, to solve a problem of our society that has been there since the beginning of time. It is designed to take action to make us feel good about being pro-active when in fact it only diminishes our individual freedom. Violent acts will not be eliminated, regardless of the number of laws you pass, as it is inherent to the sinful nature of mankind. The best mitigation efforts of violent acts are centered in our family, church and law enforcement. Yes we can be vigilant to individuals of questionable mental capacity but we already have the ability to deal with these cases without further infringement to our individual rights.

Respectfully Submitted for testimony against HB4145.

John P. Ritchie
Sherwood, OR