



February 6, 2018

The Honorable Jeff Barker, Chair  
House Committee On Judiciary  
900 Court St. NE, H-480  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: HB 4145 (Brown) – *Doublespeak* reclassifications of ORS; firearms confiscation orders; conflicts with federal law**  
**POSITION: OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Barker:

On behalf of the members and supporters of the Firearms Policy Coalition, I respectfully submit our opposition to House Bill 4145.

Section 3 attempts to force reporting of these potentially non-violent protective orders and state convictions as a “conviction” of Misdemeanor Crime of Domestic Violence, (MCDV) even though it is not, and would likely conflict with the federal law and definition of MCDV. This is Ostensibly to shame law enforcement and prosecutors into fully prosecuting every case – even if they may suspect false statements our foul play on behalf of the petitioning party.

HB 4145 redefines family or household member to mean literally *any* person that may have been “**involved in a sexually intimate relationship.**” The numerous pitfalls for this are obvious. Anyone could claim to have had sex with you and fill out a life-changing restraining order against you—no matter how much time has elapsed since your last (alleged) contact.

HB 4145 also inflicts a very deceptive “catch 22” on line (10) ii and iii, to discourage appeals and the exercise of due process. Under HB 4145 you are guilty until proven innocent.

Lastly, the penalties for false accusations using laws like 4145 are little if anything at all. The impacts on the victims are extreme, loss of rights, job prospects, and family turmoil. The penalty for abusing these types of laws and our justice system should be no less than a felony.

**For all of the reasons stated above, we must oppose HB 4145 and urge your “NO” vote.** Please don’t hesitate to contact us at (855) 372-7522 or [policy@fpchq.org](mailto:policy@fpchq.org) if we can be of any assistance to you or your staff.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Philip Watson'.

Philip Watson  
Legislative Advocate  
Firearms Policy Coalition