

False accusations happen, and these days they are happening a lot. Current events have proven that when false allegations are made to get protective orders, the people providing the false information are not prosecuted. HB 4145 protects no one. If the State of Oregon wanted to protect women it would stop squandering millions on fiasco projects and failing agencies and spend more on services and shelters for victims of abuse. What it does do is steal the rights of potentially innocent people... like Shane Morgan of Bend with absolutely no retribution for false accusations. I am a woman and I believe that anyone who falsely accuses another person should be sentenced, harshly. We need to discourage false accusations, which are a form of defamation and have lots of other consequences. False accusations can ruin someone's life, and now you want to take away their constitutional right to bear arms too. False accusations are something that our courts should take very seriously, but because they don't allow innocent folks like Shane and many others to get retribution for false claims they are encouraging defamation to continue. This is the environment that Oregon has created for its citizens and because of this HB 4145 enables folks to steal the constitutional rights of innocent people with no retribution. This is just one reason to vote "No" on this ridiculous bill.

If Oregon wanted to protect women it would not prohibit them from having the means to protect themselves or subject them to indefinite delays to acquire self defense tools. It would not require them to wait a month and a half to be allowed to be armed when they leave their homes.

I strongly urge you to promote the enforcement of existing laws against assault and violence. HB 4145 is nothing more than a mean spirited attack on people who own guns. Nothing in the bill protects those who are falsely accused, and the recent case of Shane Morgan in Bend demonstrates that false accusers are NOT held accountable.

We need laws that empower women to not be victims, not laws that reinforce their victim status and encourage them to be wards of a state that cannot protect them. Vote "no" on HB 4145.