



## Deborah Kafoury Multnomah County Chair

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February 20, 2018

Re: Support of House Bill 4145

Chair Prozański and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I support HB 4145 because, without question, the loophole in our current law allowing abusive partners and stalkers to buy and possess firearms is flat-out deadly. It fails to recognize that if a person is violent, it does not matter whether he is a husband, boyfriend, or stalker. The number of women killed by their dating partners is now equal to the number killed by their spouses. And incidents of stalking in the year leading up to an attempted murder of a woman are frequent -- as many as 9 in 10 incidents, according to one study.

Oregon legislators have the opportunity to protect vulnerable women and save lives by passing HB 4145. Prohibiting abusive partners with restraining orders and stalkers from possessing a firearm is a common sense way we can help prevent many already dangerous situations from getting even worse.

I hope you will consider doing the right thing for Oregonian women and pass HB 4145. Thank you:

Sincerely,

Deborah Kafoury  
Multnomah County Chair