

February 6, 2020

Chair: Representative Tawna Sanchez
Vice-Chair: Representative Janelle Bynum
Vice-Chair: Representative Sherrie Sprenger
Representative Jeff Barker
Representative Mitch Greenlick
Representative Akasha Lawrence Spence
Representative Rick Lewis
Representative Raquel Moore-Green
Representative Carla Piluso
Representative Karin Power
Representative Duane Stark

RE: Opposition to HB4005

Dear House Committee On Judiciary Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Members,

As you listen and read through testimony from individuals, organizations and other interested entities about HB4005, I would assume nearly every submission has concern about keeping firearms out of the hands of those who are not supposed to have them. But that is where similarities end.

I can only be responsible for my personal actions, not that of others. I am especially not responsible for the personal actions or behaviors other others. However, HB4005 will essentially make me responsible for the actions of others.

But, the passage of this poorly written bill and associated future Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) written by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Oregon State Police (OSP) will also certainly be challenged in the courts. It will result in costing taxpaying Oregonians unknown sums of money in legal defense with a losing proposition. Many current OHA related OAR's are already riddled with civil rights infringements and the citizenry does not need more. It would probably be less expensive to provide an average quality gun safe to each household in the state than it will be to defend a law that will ultimately be found unconstitutional at the state and federal levels.

As mentioned above, I cannot be responsible for the actions of another person, who, just as equally have no control over my actions or behaviors. Safety, including storage, should be important to any firearm owner and is detailed in every gun manual but I/we cannot force anyone to read, comprehend and implement what is written.

I would rather see the committee and the legislature focus on cleaning up current ORS's and OAR's for civil rights issues rather than create new ones in the form of HB4005.

Michael Lantz
Native Oregonian