



OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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House Committee on Judiciary
HB 4145

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Wallan and Chotzen, Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA), is opposed to HB 4145 for much the same reasons we have opposed Measure 114 and the previous iterations of this bill. Measure 114, and HB 4145, would have serious negative impacts on our members regarding their constitutional right to keep and bear arms for self-defense and the hunting and shooting sports that are part of our heritage.

The permit to purchase process, including a live fire training requirement, is in itself an unreasonable barrier to firearms ownership with no regard for the infrastructure needed to create such a process or the lengthy delays to be incurred by lawful citizens. The added infringement of an electronic, searchable database of all permit holders creates valid safety concerns for those exercising their second amendment right to possess a firearm, as we've seen numerous database leaks from state agencies.

HB 4145 implements specific changes to Measure 114's ballot language, however, none of these changes improve the intent or outcomes sought by the ballot measure or address our concerns.

The increased fees required to apply for, or renew, a permit to purchase only further obstructs a citizen's ability to exercise their second amendment rights with an undue financial burden.

The increased time allowed for issuance of the permit, from 30 to 60 days, further lengthens the time an individual will wait for their right to purchase a firearm to be approved by the government. Note, this 60 day interval comes after the individual has already taken the required training course, but before the additional background check and wait period, making the process to purchase a firearm span multiple months.

In addition to these concerns, the fiscal impact of HB 4145 to the State's budget is of particular concern during a time when the legislature is tasked with balancing the budget shortfall through agency reductions. Purporting fiscal responsibility while adding a \$15 million expense to the General Fund is a disingenuous position for this body to hold.

OHA opposes HB 4145 and the increased obstacles it places on Oregonian's abilities to exercise their constitutional right to keep and bear arms. In our current national climate, which of our other constitutional rights would this legislative body feel comfortable abdicating to the approval of the government?

Thank you for your time,
Amy Patrick
On behalf of Oregon Hunters Association