

Submitter: Jessica Simonetti-Eng

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Please support House Bill 4145. I am a mother of four children and clinical psychologist per career. I care deeply about reducing gun violence because it is unfathomable that parents living in the United States of America, one of the most leading and privileged countries in the world, need to worry about their child dying by gun violence. This issue has been managed by other first world countries much better than the U.S., and my hope is that we can follow suit to ensure safety and protection for our citizens, especially our most vulnerable such as our children. In my clinical role as a psychologist, this issue comes up frequently as a major source of mental health stress and realistic worry given our statistics on gun violence with little to no movement in treating it. Please help Oregonian feels safe again and help us protect our children who feel like sitting ducks awaiting for adults to step up and take action (not prayers) that actually have policy changes to protect them.

Guns are the 2nd-leading cause of death among children and teens in Oregon, and the leading cause nationwide. We can and must do better, and we made great progress when we enacted a permit to purchase law in 2022. The provisions in this bill will enable state agencies and law enforcement departments across the state to implement life-saving gun violence prevention laws to the best of their ability. I urge you to lead our state toward a future free from gun violence by doing your part to advance this bill. Thank you.