Submitter: Ryan Bunch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ryan, and I am an Oregon resident. I respectfully oppose HB 4145 due to concerns regarding due process, proportionality, and enforcement clarity.

HB 4145 materially alters the permitting framework by extending the issuance period from 30 to 60 days and increasing the permit fee from $65 to $150. When the state conditions the exercise of a lawful activity on prior approval, constitutional principles require that the process be timely, clearly defined, and not unduly burdensome.

The extended issuance period raises procedural due process concerns. A doubling of the review timeline, without narrowly defined criteria or meaningful remedies for delay, risks transforming administrative review into an effective denial through inaction. Courts have consistently viewed open-ended or extended permitting delays as constitutionally suspect when they lack strict procedural safeguards.

The increased fee likewise warrants careful scrutiny. Substantial fee increases tied to the exercise of a lawful right must be justified by demonstrable administrative costs and narrowly tailored to avoid creating unnecessary barriers. Absent such justification, fee increases risk operating as a disproportionate burden, particularly on lower-income applicants.

Finally, the bill's enforcement structure relies heavily on administrative discretion while providing limited guidance or accountability mechanisms. When combined with longer delays and higher costs, this framework raises concerns regarding uneven application and equal protection, even if unintended.

For these reasons, HB 4145 appears insufficiently tailored to withstand constitutional scrutiny. I urge the committee to decline passage or to substantially amend the bill to include clear standards, firm timelines, and proportional fees consistent with due process principles.

Thank you for your consideration.