

Submitter: Ken Christensen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I oppose HB 4145.

HB 4145 relies on enforcement against law-abiding people, not criminals. Those who commit violent crimes will not comply with additional regulations. Enforcement will therefore focus on compliant citizens, producing paperwork violations rather than safety improvements. The increase of 30 days to 60 days to process an application for a permit to purchase causes an unreasonable delay for lawful Oregonians to purchase a firearm, in violation of Article 1 Section 27 of our Oregon Constitution.

The bill also diverts public resources—staff time, enforcement effort, and administrative cost—away from targeting repeat violent offenders and illegal activity. That is a poor use of limited state resources. The annual reporting requirements as stipulates the "report shall additionally specify, for each county, racial and gender information concerning each applicant" - why is this needed? Race and gender have no significance.

In addition, the burdens imposed by HB 4145 fall hardest on rural residents, lower-income Oregonians, and the elderly who will face greater costs, travel burdens, and delays. Rights cannot be limited based on one's income or geography.

Finally, the hearing was not listed on OLIS until last Monday morning, denying many citizens a fair opportunity to participate.

HB 4145 is ineffective, inequitable, and procedurally flawed. It should be rejected.