

Submitter:

Mary Elizabeth Rasmussen

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4145

I am writing to you as an anxiety-riddled mother of 3 precious children. My high school friend lost her young child in the shooting at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis. My children attend a catholic school as well. They are 8, 6, and 3 years old. Every Wednesday when they attend mass, my heart rate and cortisol spike, and it takes me days to get back to "normal" (if there is a normal anymore). I am so worried that I will lose them to a shooting that this thought almost consumes me. I attend mass with them and sit near them every Wednesday so that I can shield them with my body if I need to.

Guns are the SECOND-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.

It's a simple choice to make children in Oregon safer and allow them to thrive. They deserve the chance to grow up.