

Submitter:

Paul Turok

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4145

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 4145. This legislation represents a direct and unacceptable infringement on the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 27 of the Oregon Constitution, which explicitly protects the right of the people to bear arms for the defense of themselves and the state.

HB 4145 places broad restrictions on law-abiding citizens while doing nothing to meaningfully address violent crime. The right to keep and bear arms is an individual, fundamental right, affirmed repeatedly by the United States Supreme Court in decisions such as District of Columbia v. Heller, McDonald v. Chicago, and New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen. Under the Bruen standard, firearm regulations must be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. HB 4145 fails that test.

This bill treats constitutionally protected conduct as a privilege subject to excessive regulation and government discretion. It shifts the burden onto responsible citizens—those who already follow the law—while criminals, by definition, will not comply. The result is reduced personal safety for Oregonians, especially those in rural communities, seniors, people with disabilities, and others who rely on firearms for lawful self-defense.

Public safety is not achieved by eroding constitutional rights. It is achieved through enforcing existing laws, addressing repeat violent offenders, improving mental health resources, and supporting law enforcement—not by imposing blanket restrictions on responsible citizens exercising a fundamental right.

I urge you to reject HB 4145 and to uphold your oath to support and defend the Constitution. Oregon can pursue public safety solutions without violating the civil liberties of its citizens.

Respectfully,

Paul Turok Oregon Resident