

Submitter:

Melissa Tom

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4145

I am a frontline healthcare worker in the emergency department where people come in their most desperate moments. They come when they are dying. They come when they want to die. They come when they have shot themselves wanting to die. A permit to purchase a firearm is one of the best ways to prevent firearm suicide. We know that putting space between a person and a gun when they are suicidal can save a life.

They come after someone who shouldn't have a license to carry a firearm decides to kill innocent people. If the gunman has a large capacity magazine, then the victims and the body count multiplies. Banning large capacity magazines helps keep Oregonians safe.

The patients I treat have emergencies - conditions in which seconds can mean the difference between life and death. Owning a gun isn't an emergency; completing a background check before arming someone could save a life or many lives. Every gun sold should have a completed background check. HB 4145 would close the loophole that allows gun sales before a background check is completed if it takes longer than 3 days.