



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 3, 2026

Chair Kropf, Vice Chair Wallan, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

HB 4145 bill resurrects the failed framework of Measure 114, creating the same operational problems and constitutional concerns without delivering meaningful public safety improvements.

Operationally Unworkable. The bill mandates that every firearm purchaser obtain a permit from their local police chief or sheriff, but provides no centralized system, electronic portal, or automated tracking. Instead, it relies on Oregon's 36 counties—many already understaffed and underfunded—to independently manage applications with no guarantee of consistency or timely processing. Our law enforcement is already stretched thin. We should not burden them further without providing infrastructure or funding.

Denies Due Process. HB 4145 allows Oregon State Police to deny permits if background checks cannot be completed due to incomplete state records. Applicants are penalized for state database deficiencies with no appeal process, no correction timeline, and no recourse. This is fundamentally unjust.

Inconsistent Standards. The bill requires firearm safety training but establishes no standardized curriculum, instructor registry, or uniform requirements. Some counties may accept online courses; others may not. This creates confusion and unequal access across jurisdictions.

No Public Safety Gains. Most critically, this system does nothing to address the real drivers of gun violence: straw purchasing, criminal trafficking, stolen firearms, domestic violence enforcement, suicide prevention, and mental health intervention. The bill burdens law-abiding citizens already following the law while criminals—who ignore laws by definition—will obtain firearms through illegal channels.

Cost, Delays, and Disparate Treatment. HB 4145 raises the permit fee from \$65 to \$150—more than doubling the cost for law-abiding citizens. It extends issuance timelines from 30 to 60 days, creating lengthy delays in exercising constitutional rights. Meanwhile, the bill exempts retired law enforcement from the 10-round magazine limit, creating a two-tiered system where former officers have access to tools denied to civilians.

Unfunded and Unprepared. The bill delays implementation until 2028, implicitly acknowledging the system is not ready. Yet it provides no funding, staffing plan, centralized infrastructure, or statewide coordination to achieve readiness. Delaying a broken system does not fix it.

HB 4145 infringes on constitutional rights, burdens law enforcement without support, and fails to deliver measurable public safety improvements. I urge the committee to reject this bill.

Respectfully submitted into the record,

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Oregon State Representative, District 15