

Submitter:

Dustin Sanow

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4145

I write in opposition to HB4145 because I believe that the bill would create a burdensome system of hurdles which only serves to stymie the already troublesome process of exercising constitutionally protected civil rights, especially for those citizens among us who may need those rights to exercise the best possible form of self-defence the most.

The issuance of a license to purchase firearms creates a regulatory hurdle which many Oregonians will find too troublesome, invasive, and costly to warrant the time and resources to overcome. The single mother who works multiple jobs to provide for her family doesn't have the time, money, or energy to undergo scheduling a class, obtaining consent from her local law enforcement office, and submitting to and paying for redundant background checks before even being allowed to purchase a firearm to protect herself and her children from, or to act as a deterrent to, an abusive stalker or ex-spouse. HB4145 would make it impossible for her to easily and freely exercise her right to armed self defence.

Furthermore, the requirement of this bill to keep a record of license holders and to submit the biometric data of applicants to federal law enforcement, as well as psychiatric review boards, is a gross violation of privacy and creates a de facto registry of gun owners in the state, which has been illegal at the federal level for many years. Imagine having your identity verified via biometric data in order to obtain a license to vote, or to speak freely by protesting or posting an opinion online. HB4145 does nothing less for the right to keep and bear arms.

I also believe that magazine restrictions only serve to prevent the people from having the best possible chance at lawful self-defence, and do nothing to prevent criminals from using those same tools for criminal acts.

Finally, the provisions that exclude Law Enforcement and Military from this law create a two tier system of privilege that makes an Oregonian's profession the determining factor in the free exercise of rights guaranteed to all the people, not just those who hold a badge or swore an oath and receive a government paycheck. Liberty must exist for those of us that LEOs and Servicemembers swore to protect, or does not exist at all. Don't make our liberties a privilege, dependent on occupation or the efficiency of an underfunded system of bureaucracy.