

Submitter:

Debra Lindgren

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4145

February 3, 2026

Re: Testimony in support of House Bill 4145

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallen, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Debra Lindgren and I am a retired educator, parent of two daughters and a lifetime Oregonian. I am writing to express my support for HB 4145, modifying the firearm permit provisions of Ballot Measure 114. My volunteer work has centered around working with community partners around the state of Oregon on gun violence prevention measures. The message I receive from partner conversations is we should all be safe from gun crimes in our neighborhoods, no matter our race, income, or zip codes.

Basic safety practices for dealers can help stop guns from getting into the wrong hands thus reducing gun crimes. Although federal law requires all gun dealers to obtain a license, dealer regulations haven't been updated in decades. Many states fill the gap by mandating a state-issued license and additional oversight; the strongest states require background checks and training for employees, robust physical security, including security alarm systems, to prevent theft, and thorough record-keeping. Gun dealer licensing is a proven solution to violent gun crimes that has already been passed in 16 states including Washington and California. Research shows gun dealer licensing reduces in-state gun diversions for criminal activity by more than 60% and gun homicide rates by almost 40%.

Bottom line, gun dealers play a critical role and should be held responsible to foster a culture of responsible gun dealing, purchasing, and ownership in Oregon. By modifying the permit to purchase process with this bill, eligibility changes, along with the start date, HB 4145 will be effective in keeping Oregonians safe.

I am grateful for your committee considering gun violence safety measures to make our communities safer places to live, work, learn and play. I urge you to advance HB 4145 out of committee and continue your support until it becomes law.

Debra Lindgren
Lake Oswego