

Submitter: Michael Phengsynath

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

My name is Michael, and I am a resident of the State of Oregon. I am providing this testimony to address the role of lawful firearm ownership in relation to regulated hunting, wildlife management, and outdoor recreation within the state.

Oregon maintains a structured system for hunting that is governed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Participation in big game, waterfowl, and upland bird hunting requires the completion of hunter education, the purchase of appropriate licenses and tags, and adherence to established seasons, bag limits, and equipment regulations. These requirements are designed to promote public safety, conservation, and ethical use of wildlife resources.

Firearms used for hunting in Oregon serve a defined and regulated purpose within this system. They are tools for harvesting game in compliance with state laws and wildlife management policies. Regulated hunting contributes to population control, habitat funding through licensing and excise taxes, and data collection that supports long-term conservation planning.

According to state and federal frameworks, lawful hunters are subject to background checks, training requirements, and ongoing compliance with both wildlife and firearm regulations. These measures establish accountability and oversight for individuals who participate in hunting activities.

Access to legal firearms for hunting directly supports participation in Oregon's outdoor economy, which includes rural employment, land stewardship, conservation programs, and public land use. Many local communities rely on seasonal hunting activity for economic support through lodging, supplies, and services.

This testimony is submitted to document the functional relationship between regulated firearm ownership and lawful hunting practices in Oregon, and the role both play in conservation, public safety, and the state's outdoor heritage.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this statement for the public record.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael

State of Oregon

02/03/2026