

Submitter: Ron Wright

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I oppose HB 4145 for many reasons. One it violates our constitutional rights to keep and bare arms, second it intrudes on our ability for self defense! What most anti gun individuals don't understand is the serious threats we face on a daily basis...

Take my home town of Salem, Oregon... it has turned into a crime rat infested filthy city... out of control crime, drugs on the streets, homeless all over the city, and a city mayor, and state governor who could care less!

Oregon government goal in their pathetic socialist communist agenda is to disarm its citizens and then say this will stop the gun crimes! WRONG! Criminals don't obey the laws! We have a right to own guns to protect our lives, property, family, this state and nation!

A bill to have a permit just to buy a firearm is redundant and unconstitutional... Period!

I am a former USAF veteran, former firefighter, a certified gun range officer. I helped train individuals for over 10 years assisting a former USMC veteran, police officer who was a certified FBI firearms instructor and competitive shooter. We would have anywhere from 10 to 20 students in class and live fire tactical training. We stressed safety and not one person was ever injured!

As a COLD WAR VETERAN... during the 1970's through 1980's we had threats then... Russia, and sometimes N.Korea... But now that threat has increased 10 fold... RUSSIA, CHINA, N. KOREA all nuclear capability.. and terrorists country like Iran, and terrorists spread out through the Middle East. The 9/11 attack on the United States was terribly, but it may happen again on a grand scale that no one can imagine!

I have also trained in the martial arts for years holding a Black belt in one style, a Red belt in another. Many hours training on aspects of self defense and current laws carrying a firearm. It was my choice to learn all aspects of this.

Oregon government needs to clean up their act and stop the "fairytale story" they are trying to implement on its citizens. We need a PERMITLESS CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY, if a person can legally own a firearm, they should be allowed to carry it concealed and be responsible for it.

The purpose of the Second Amendment is to protect the right of the people to keep and bear arms, understood as crucial for self-defense, protecting property, and ensuring a "well regulated Militia" for the security of a free state, preventing tyranny by ensuring an armed citizenry capable of resisting government overreach. While its historical roots involve maintaining militias, Supreme Court interpretation confirms it also guarantees an individual's right to possess firearms for traditionally lawful purposes, like self-defense in the home, separate from militia service.

Key Purposes & Interpretations:

- **Self-Defense & Property Protection:** A primary purpose is to allow individuals to protect themselves, their families, and their property from harm.??
- **Security of a Free State:** The amendment's preamble links arms to a "well regulated Militia," ensuring an armed populace as essential for national security against threats, including potential tyranny.??
- **Check on Government Power:** The Founders intended an armed citizenry to deter government oppression, drawing from historical examples where disarming populations preceded loss of freedom.??
- **Individual Right:** The Supreme Court's ruling in *District of Columbia v. Heller* affirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to own guns for self-defense, not just for militia-related activities.??

In essence, the Second Amendment serves dual purposes: empowering individuals for personal safety and maintaining an armed citizenry as a safeguard for liberty against potential government abuse, with interpretations varying on the emphasis of these aspects.

As of early 2026, 29 states have enacted permitless carry (or "constitutional carry") laws, allowing both residents and nonresidents to legally carry a concealed firearm without a state-issued permit.