

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Lee Stewart

February 3, 2026

Testimony in Support of HB 4145

Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my support for **HB 4145**. This legislation is a vital step toward protecting our most vulnerable residents.

The statistics surrounding firearm-related fatalities are more than just numbers—they represent a profound loss of potential. Nationwide, gun violence has become the leading cause of death for children and teens. Here in Oregon, it remains the second-leading cause. This is an unacceptable reality that we have the power to change, and we simply must do better for the next generation.

We have already demonstrated a collective will to prioritize safety, notably with the progress made through the 2022 permit-to-purchase requirements. **HB 4145** builds on that momentum. By providing state agencies and law enforcement departments with the specific provisions they need, this bill ensures that our existing prevention laws are not just words on paper, but active, life-saving tools implemented to their fullest extent.

I urge you to champion a future where Oregonians can live free from the threat of gun violence. Please do your part to advance this bill through the legislative process.

Thank you for your time, your leadership, and your commitment to the safety of our communities.

Sincerely,

Lee Stewart  
Portland, OR