

Submitter:

John Guerin

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4145

Strong Opposition to House Bill 4145 – Modifies firearm permit provisions of Ballot Measure 114 (2022)

Dear Chair Kropf and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing as a resident of Bend, Oregon, to strongly oppose House Bill 4145. This legislation attempts to revive and expand the restrictive framework of Ballot Measure 114 (2022) through statutory changes, despite ongoing legal challenges and clear evidence that such measures do not enhance public safety while imposing significant burdens on law-abiding citizens.

HB 4145 would:

Double the processing time for firearm purchase permits from 30 days to 60 days, creating unnecessary delays for individuals exercising their constitutional rights. More than double the permit fee (from \$65 to \$150 or higher), adding a financial barrier that disproportionately affects working families, rural residents, and those of modest means who rely on firearms for self-defense, hunting, or sport.

Expand bureaucratic discretion in permit denials (including for incomplete state records), raising serious due process concerns and the risk of arbitrary or subjective decisions.

Create a de facto registry through the database of permit holders and application information, exempt from public disclosure but still collecting sensitive personal data on lawful gun owners.

Exempt certain law enforcement officers from large-capacity magazine restrictions and other requirements, establishing two classes of citizens—one subject to strict limits and another granted special privileges.

Delay full implementation until January 1, 2028, implicitly admitting the state is unprepared to administer the system fairly and efficiently, yet pushing forward regardless.

These changes do nothing to address criminal misuse of firearms. They target law-abiding Oregonians who already pass federal background checks and follow existing laws. Measure 114's core elements remain under review by the Oregon Supreme Court precisely because of constitutional questions surrounding restrictions on the

right to keep and bear arms. HB 4145 sidesteps voter intent and judicial scrutiny by legislatively imposing even more onerous conditions.

Oregonians deserve policies grounded in evidence, not symbolic restrictions that erode fundamental rights without improving safety. Criminals ignore permit requirements, magazine limits, and fees—only responsible citizens are penalized.

I urge the Committee to reject HB 4145 in its entirety. Please vote "Do Not Pass" and prioritize measures that genuinely target illegal activity rather than burdening law-abiding residents.

Thank you for considering my views. I respectfully request that this letter be included in the official testimony record for HB 4145. I am available to provide additional information if needed.

Sincerely,

John Guerin, Bend Oregon