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Chair Jason Kropf and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

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

Dear Chair Kropf and Committee Members,

I am writing as a concerned Oregon resident and law-abiding firearm owner to strongly **oppose** HB 4145. This bill resurrects and worsens many of the problematic elements of Ballot Measure 114 while adding new restrictions that infringe on the constitutional rights of Oregonians without meaningfully improving public safety.

HB 4145 modifies Measure 114's permit-to-purchase scheme in ways that impose greater burdens on everyday citizens:

- It more than doubles the maximum fee for a permit (from \$65 to \$150), creating a significant financial barrier that disproportionately affects working families, low-income individuals, and those in rural areas who rely on firearms for self-defense, hunting, or sport.
- It extends the processing time for permits from 30 days to 60 days, meaning law-abiding Oregonians could face two-month delays when attempting to exercise their Second Amendment rights—delays that do nothing to prevent crime but leave people vulnerable.
- It creates a de facto firearm registry through expanded record-keeping and non-public disclosure exemptions for permit data, raising serious privacy and misuse concerns.
- It grants broad exemptions and special privileges to active law enforcement officers, retired officers, parole/probation officers, and others under 18 U.S.C. 926C, allowing them to bypass permit requirements and large-capacity magazine restrictions. This establishes two classes of citizens: one where government employees and retirees enjoy fewer restrictions, and another where ordinary Oregonians face heightened hurdles to the same fundamental right.
- These changes do not come from voter-approved language in Measure 114—they represent legislative additions that make the system more restrictive and discriminatory.

Measure 114 itself remains under legal challenge (including constitutional scrutiny post-Bruen), and HB 4145 attempts to implement and expand it despite those unresolved issues. Rather than "fixing" problems, the bill compounds them by adding subjective denial powers, operational inefficiencies (no centralized electronic system is mandated), and potential due process violations (such as denials based on incomplete state records beyond the applicant's control).

- Oregonians deserve policies that target actual criminal behavior—not ones that burden the law-abiding while creating carve-outs for government insiders. If the goal is truly public safety, resources should focus on prosecuting violent offenders, addressing mental health crises, and improving enforcement of existing laws, not layering new bureaucratic obstacles onto constitutional rights.
- I respectfully urge the Committee to **reject HB 4145** in its entirety. If the bill moves forward, I ask that it be amended to repeal the core permit-to-purchase and magazine restrictions rather than entrench and expand them.
- Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony. I request that this letter be entered into the official record for HB 4145. I am available to answer any questions and would welcome the opportunity to testify in person if hearings continue.

Sincerely,

Amber Evans of Beatty, Oregon