

Submitter: Karen Florey House

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Subject: Testimony in Strong Opposition to House Bill 4145

I am writing to express my firm opposition to HB 4145. While framed as a legislative "fix, " this bill creates a dangerous and unconstitutional double standard for Oregonians.

The Oregon Constitution explicitly prohibits granting "privileges or immunities" to one class of citizens that are not available to all. By exempting retired law enforcement and retired probation

officers from magazine capacity limits and permit requirements for recreational use, HB 4145

creates a tiered system of citizenship. For example, a retired official could use a standard-capacity magazine on public lands like the Tillamook Forest, while a law-abiding

civilian doing the exact same thing would face criminal charges. Conduct should not be

criminalized based on a person's former job.

The bill significantly increases permit and renewal fees, raising the initial cost from \$65 to \$150

and the renewal fee from \$50 to \$110. As a low-income Oregonian, I find these price hikes

especially exclusionary; for many of us, a 130% increase turns a fundamental right into a luxury

we can no longer afford. These financial barriers disproportionately impact those living in

high-crime areas who may have the greatest need for self-defense. Furthermore, doubling the

permit review window to 60 days acts as a bureaucratic deterrent. A right delayed is a right

denied.

We cannot claim to value equality while passing laws that exempt a certain group of citizens

from the very rules that apply to the rest of us. If the state believes that "standard" capacity

magazines are necessary for the self-defense of retired officials, it is an admission that they are

necessary for the self-defense of all law-abiding citizens. I urge you to uphold the Oregon Constitution and vote NO on HB4145.

Respectfully,  
Karen D House