

Dear members of the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon and associated persons,

My name is Raoul Salem, and I live in Medford, Oregon. I am writing about House Bill 4145.

House Bill 4145 would be a reworked version of House Bill 3075 from the year 2025. It attempts to improve Ballot Measure 114 (which was passed in 2022). House Bill 4145 starts with Ballot Measure 114 being in place.

Oddly, House Bill 4145 was introduced for its first reading on Monday afternoon, February 2nd, 2026—the first day of the session of the House. This was prior to it being ready for its appropriate committee, and for public hearings.

AS compared with Ballot Measure 114, House Bill 4145 would increase the fees for the permit to purchase a firearm **from \$65 to \$150 (but \$110 for renewals)**, and would double the waiting times for the permit decision windows (from 30 days to 60 days—assuming that the permit agent completes the process). Actually, there is no requirement for the department to *ever* complete the process, and a permit will not be issued without closure of the process. The bill enables denial based on someone's opinion that the applicant poses a danger to self and/or to others, without any adjudication. If the permit has not been approved within the decision window time limit, then the process must start again from the beginning.

Although a training program for all firearms purchasers is a very good idea, I believe that the State of Oregon must first guarantee that training programs must be readily available, affordable, and not too protracted (my suggestion is not more than two weeks).

I think that a fee of \$150, or even \$110, is affordable for some Oregonians, but out of reach for others. I also think that a waiting time of up to 30 days is a long time, but 60 days is outrageous! In the case of an applicant who is contemplating suicide with a firearm, we are told that, if the applicant waits for a day or so, it is likely that the applicant will abandon the decision to commit suicide. It is not necessary to make the applicant wait 30 days, or even 60 days.

If the applicant is approved, has successfully fulfilled the completion of all requirements, and paid the fee, then either Ballot Measure 114 or House Bill 4145 should specify that ***the permit shall be issued.***

House Bill 4145 proposes to create a registry of firearms owners. Such a registry may prove useful to law enforcement officers throughout Oregon. However, if the registry is not adequately secure from unauthorized users, then it may prove to be a risk to any and all firearms owners. Some suggest that it may violate Federal government requirements.

I think it is odd that all legal challenges to House Bill 4145 *must* be pursued only through the Marion County Circuit Court. From the standpoint of justice and fairness, I think that this requirement should be deleted.

I do think that it is good, and reasonable, to have the full implementation of the proposed permit application system completed by January first of 2028.

I am against the ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines (which for Ballot Measure 114 means a capacity of more than ten cartridges), which is a part of House Bill 4145. The reason for the ban is to reduce the number of fatalities in mass shootings.

I believe that the reduction of the number of fatalities will be marginal. Here is why. I am assuming that an assailant is shooting a semiautomatic firearm or a machine gun (also known as a full-automatic firearm). These firearms provide for very quick replacement of empty magazines by full magazines. A button on the firearm is pushed, and the empty magazine falls out of the firearm. The assailant pushes a full magazine into the firearm, and works the action of the firearm so as to push the first cartridge from the full magazine into the chamber of the firearm, and then closes the action on the first cartridge. At this point, the firearm is ready to continue shooting. This procedure can be performed in much less time than it takes for me to explain it. Most firearm owners do not have a need for magazines with a capacity of more than ten cartridges. But there are firearm owners who compete in shooting contests in which the scores

have an elapsed-time factor, and a capacity of more than ten cartridges provides an important advantage. For this purpose, if and when Ballot Measure 114 passes, I think that there should be a possibility of a special permit for purchasing, owning, and utilizing the large-capacity magazines.

One aspect of the bill that I like is that the implementation date of the proposed permit system has been pushed out to January 1st, 2028. This is a clear admission that the state government of Oregon is not yet ready to begin implementing the features of House Bill 4145 and Ballot Measure 114, and that time is needed for the involved persons and agencies to make it all happen.

I thank you very much for your attention to my testimony regarding House Bill 4145 and Ballot Measure 114.

Respectfully submitted,

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