

To: Oregon House Judiciary Committee

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan and other members of the committee

My name is Liz McKanna. I submit this testimony in strong support of HB 4145.

For the past 8 years I have served as a volunteer with Lift Every Voice Oregon (LEVO), primarily as Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee.

Since 2021, I have been involved in the drafting and many other actions that resulted in Measure 114 becoming law. I have also participated in the legislative efforts since 2023, to enact modest changes related to its implementation.

Throughout this process, we have worked hard to ensure the voters' intent was preserved. That intent is to reduce gun violence through a permitting procedure and restrictions on large-capacity magazines, as well as closing the Charleston loophole so that no guns are transferred until the purchaser has successfully passed a background check.

HB 4145 does preserve the voters' goal and also provides some useful amendments that will make implementation smoother for law enforcement and others.

I believe the amendments are generally supported by the consensus of the major gun safety organizations, law enforcement and the Justice Department. And, they also address concerns raised by those who opposed Measure 114.

For example, HB 4145 clarifies that information obtained as part of the permit process will not be subject to public records requests. Measure 114 clearly applied that rule to background checks, but the change makes sure permit application information is also covered.

HB 4145 also provides that permit applicants are entered into the Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS), just as Concealed Handgun Licensee applicants are. This will facilitate more efficient coordination with other agencies and promote safety.

Another change enhances the equity provision of Measure 114, which requires annual reports related to denials of permits to purchase in order to ensure there is equitable and consistent administration of the process. HB 4145 provides greater specificity so the reports will include overall demographic analysis, including race and gender, to improve the consistent and equitable approval of permit applications.

This bill also removes ambiguities regarding conduct that has occurred while a court injunction has been in place. Such conduct will not form the basis of any charges if it occurred prior to the court imposed stay being lifted.

Finally, HB 4145 provides a clear time line for implementation of the three life-saving provisions of the Measure 114 following the court ruling to lift the stay:

- a. Immediate closing of the Charleston Loophole, which allows a gun to be handed to a purchaser even if the background check has not been completed.
- b. Immediate implementation of the restrictions related to large-capacity magazines.
- c. Implementation of the requirement of a permit to purchase a firearm is delayed until Jan. 1, 2028. While LEVO urges commencement of the permit requirement at the earliest possible time, we trust the The additional time will be used wisely to make sure the procedures and equipment for processing the permits will be ready to enforce the permit requirement no later than that date.

On behalf of LEVO and all Oregonians, I urge you to pass HB 4145 this session, so that the preparation for the application of Measure 114 will be in place at the time the stay is lifted.

Thank you for your efforts and dedication to making Oregon safer.