

Submitter: Terry Evans
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Pros:

The only pro for HB 4145 is it puts more money into the State Police.

Cons:

Treats law abiding citizens as criminals.
Places increased financial burden on citizens opening the door for permit price increases until no one can afford them.
Violates the 2nd Amendment.
Automatically declares an "emergency" upon signing.
Fails to address root cause.

The argument for:

We need permits that require training to keep people safe.
We need more thorough background checks.
The Founding Fathers didn't consider high capacity magazines when they wrote the 2nd Amendment.
When our state constitution was written they didn't consider high capacity magazines.
This will prevent crime.

The argument against:

People have been keeping themselves safe with firearms in this country since before it was a country. Please tell me how many courses have ever stopped 100% of people from doing something stupid? By your logic there should never be car crashes, speeding tickets, DUIs, etc. because everyone had a driving course. You have statewide systems for voting, DMV, etc., but you are telling me you don't know who all the criminals are? If checks and permits worked, why do we still have criminals with guns?

Please define what the "emergency" is and its powers?

To better address the root cause we must apply your own use of history. In the 1950s, school shootings null. Many schools had skeet and other shooting clubs and classes. These courses taught and promoted safe gun handling and education. In fact, a person could simply order a firearm through the mail with zero background checks. As the gun control crowd slowly gained support, gun violence went up. Why is that? The claim that society changed means what? We became more

dangerous/unhinged? Violence became more and more a part of everyday life with video games, movies, and music. When we taxed everyone to death and forced the erosion of the nuclear family we removed the grounding rod that keeps children from thinking life is like “Grand Theft Auto”.

Another argument is that we have law enforcement so people don't need guns. Why do we have Narcan then? By your logic we don't need to treat overdoses rapidly, just wait for the ambulance and if they make it, they make it. With a 19-21 minute response time in Portland and up to 50 minutes in rural Oregon, firearms meet the same criteria. Like Narcan for an overdose, there is nothing guaranteed to stop an armed intruder from shooting you other than a firearm.

The Founding Fathers left most of the Amendments slightly vague because they knew the world would change, but our rights should not. That is why it says “bear arms” not muskets.

The State Constitution was ratified in 1857, we didn't have semi auto weapons and 10+ rnd mags. By that logic we didn't have cars either. By your logic we must pass an emergency law immediately banning automobiles within the state of Oregon, planes, helicopters, motorcycles too.

My personal favorite, “This will stop crime.” Please enlighten me as to how many criminal shootings have been prevented by permits and safety courses? If you want to prevent crime, put on free shooting and concealed handgun courses for women in every major city. (By the way this was done in a county in Florida decades ago, and crimes against women dropped by 80%). How many criminal shootings are committed by citizens that went down and did all the paperwork and wait time nonsense vs. by criminals who stole the gun in the first place? Of those who did the red tape dance and still willfully committed a crime with a gun, would/did the red tape make a difference?

The Bottom Line is: Every single gun control law is based on emotion not facts. Bad guys don't obey them and never will. To think otherwise is ignorance. Let's really make life hard on active criminals instead of good citizens simply because they have the potential to commit a crime. I bet that would be cheaper than changing the name of our state from Oregon to Minority Report.