

Submitter: Tammi Burkhardt
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I strongly oppose HB 4145.

HB 4145 attempts to “fix” and entrench Ballot Measure 114 while its core provisions remain controversial and legally unsettled. Doubling down before courts resolve these issues risks further legal chaos and taxpayer expense. Additionally, it requires the Oregon State Police to maintain an electronic searchable database of all permits issued, including renewals and revocations. Even if labeled “confidential,” this is functionally a registry of lawful gun owners—something long opposed across the political spectrum due to abuse and breach risks. The bill allows permit agents to deny applicants based on a belief that a person “may be reasonably likely to be a danger” due to mental or psychological state or past behavior—without a conviction or adjudication. This vague standard invites inconsistent enforcement and arbitrary denials based on opinion rather than due process. When did permit agents become licensed psychologists or have the ability to determine who is or should be a licensed gun owner. This bill punishes applicants for government record failures. If the state cannot complete a background check due to missing or incomplete records, the applicant is automatically disqualified—even when the issue is not the applicant’s fault. The burden is shifted entirely onto citizens to fix government database problems. This bill doubles wait times for a constitutional right extending the decision window from 30 to 60 days before a permit must be issued or denied. Delays in exercising a constitutional right are still infringements—especially for individuals seeking firearms for lawful self-defense. This bill intentionally and significantly increases financial barriers. Permit fees jump as high as \$150 initially and \$110 for renewals, pricing lower-income Oregonians out of exercising a fundamental right. Constitutional rights should not depend on a person’s ability to pay. The bill provides broad exemptions for active and retired law enforcement while imposing heavier burdens on ordinary citizens. Rights should not depend on one’s current or former government employment status. Applicants who are denied are reported to multiple law-enforcement agencies within 24 hours—even when no crime has been committed. This discourages lawful citizens from applying at all and treats rights-holders as suspects by default. HB 4145 mandates that challenges to the law be filed in Marion County Circuit Court only, limiting access to justice and stacking the deck against rural and out-of-area plaintiffs. Finally, the bill overwhelmingly targets law-abiding applicants with new fees, delays, and subjective standards—while offering no meaningful new tools aimed at criminals who already ignore firearm laws.

Why is our government intentionally and continually stomping on our constitutional rights? It is inconceivable to me as a licensed gun owner and concealed carry permit

owner that I have to be on guard to protect my inalienable rights as a United States citizen.

Please represent the will of the people and the 2nd amendment of the Constitution by voting NO on HB4145. We appreciate the support that you can provide and the leadership that it demonstrates to the community and the State of Oregon.