

Submitter: David Lewin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145  
Testimony Opposing HB 4145

Chair, members of the committee:

I am writing to express strong opposition to HB 4145. Many Oregonians view this bill as another attempt to restrict the ability of law-abiding residents to acquire and possess firearms. The structure of the bill places significant financial and procedural burdens on people who are simply trying to exercise a constitutionally protected right. Excessive financial barriers

HB 4145 introduces substantial fee increases tied to the permitting process. For many Oregonians—especially those with low or fixed incomes, these costs create a barrier that effectively denies access to lawful firearm ownership. Critics of the bill argue that a right that can only be exercised by those who can afford high fees is no longer a right in practice.

Requirements without clear implementation

The bill requires individuals to complete new steps and meet new standards in order to obtain a permit, yet it does not clearly establish the infrastructure needed to complete those steps. Without defined training availability, administrative capacity, or statewide consistency, residents could be left in a position where they are legally required to comply with processes that do not yet exist.

Criminalization of common equipment

HB 4145 also includes provisions that would penalize possession of magazines that many responsible gun owners already legally own. Opponents argue that this criminalizes ordinary people rather than addressing criminal misuse of firearms.

Impact on vulnerable communities

Because the bill's financial and procedural burdens fall hardest on low-income Oregonians, many see it as disproportionately harmful to communities that already face economic challenges. This raises concerns about fairness, equity, and the practical accessibility of constitutional rights.

Thank you for your consideration,

David Lewin  
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