

Submitter: ANDREW HALL
On Behalf Of: Oregonians
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Honorable Senators,

I am writing to strongly urge you to vote NO on HB 4145. As an Oregon resident deeply concerned about public safety, constitutional rights, and fiscal responsibility, I believe this bill represents a dangerous overreach that will harm our state in multiple ways.

First, HB 4145 will make Oregon less safe. By extending the permit issuance timeline from 30 to 60 days and hiking fees from \$65 to \$150 for initial applications, it creates unnecessary barriers for law-abiding citizens seeking firearms for self-defense. In a state where violent crime rates remain a concern, delaying access to legal firearms leaves vulnerable people—such as women, the elderly, and rural residents—exposed longer to threats. Criminals don't wait for permits; this bill disarms the innocent while empowering predators.

Second, this legislation will do nothing to stop criminals. HB 4145 relies on compliance from those who already follow the law, but individuals engaged in violent behavior ignore regulations like permits, fingerprinting, and training requirements. It's a feel-good measure that burdens everyday Oregonians without addressing root causes of crime, such as mental health or enforcement gaps. As opposition testimony notes, enforcement falls on the law-abiding, guaranteeing minimal public safety benefit.

Third, HB 4145 will cost Oregon taxpayers thousands—if not millions—in legal battles we are likely to lose. Ballot Measure 114, which this bill modifies, is already mired in state and federal court challenges over its constitutionality, including under the U.S. Supreme Court's Bruen decision. This bill overrides voter-approved details, creates a de facto firearm registry, and grants bureaucrats subjective denial powers, inviting more lawsuits from groups like the NRA. Oregon can't afford to waste resources defending flawed gun control that courts will strike down, especially with no identified funding for implementation costs.

Finally, passing HB 4145 will galvanize Oregon residents against you and your colleagues, many of whom face re-election soon. This bill carves out exemptions for law enforcement, creating two classes of citizens and fueling resentment among the 49% who voted against Measure 114. Gun owners and Second Amendment supporters are a mobilized bloc; this could swing districts in 2026 and beyond, as seen in past backlash to similar measures.

Vote NO on HB 4145 to protect safety, rights, and your constituents' trust.

Sincerely,

Andrew Hall