

Submitter: George Shepherd
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

George Shepherd
Beaverton, Oregon

?Date: February 26, 2026

?TO: Chair Floyd Prozanski and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: STRONGEST OPPOSITION to House Bill 4145

?Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee,

?I am writing to you as a resident of Beaverton to express my extreme opposition to HB 4145. This bill deepens the systemic flaws of our state's firearm laws, targeting vulnerable Oregonians while carving out special privileges for a select few.

?The Misinformation and Ignorance Driving Policy

?It is frustrating to see legislation like HB 4145 pushed by those who demonstrate a profound ignorance of firearm safety. Many simply repeat talking points from gun control organizations that take advantage of public ignorance. As someone who constantly trains in firearm safety, I find it offensive when advocates present "facts" that are patently false. We should not legislate based on misinformation and emotional rhetoric.

?Criminals Do Not Obey Laws

?Every patriotic Oregonian with common sense knows that criminals do not obey laws. HB 4145 only punishes the law-abiding and puts us at a disadvantage against violent criminals. When police response times are unacceptable in life-threatening situations, this bill leaves us defenseless. Only a leadership with a hidden agenda would impose such a burden on the people they serve.

?Furthermore, this bill is a setup for an illegal registry. Oregon already requires background checks for purchases, and CHL holders have already passed training and screenings. A second, expensive permit is a bureaucratic shakedown. A right delayed is a right denied.

?An Unequal Burden on Low-Income Oregonians

?As a low-income Oregonian, I am outraged by the increase of permit fees to \$150. Combined with training and fingerprinting, this is a wall designed to price us out of our constitutional rights, making self-defense a luxury for the wealthy.

?Creation of "Second-Class" Citizens

?HB 4145 establishes a dangerous two-tiered system. By exempting current and retired law enforcement from magazine limits and permits, you create "super-citizens" while treating the rest of us as second-class. If a tool is considered too dangerous for the public, it should not be exempt for off-duty government employees. We are either equal under the law, or we are not.

?Constitutional Violation

?The Supreme Court made it clear in NYSRPA v. Bruen that the Second Amendment

is not a "second-class right." HB 4145 violates the Constitution and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by treating citizens differently based on employment status rather than legal standing.

?Conclusion

?HB 4145 is an unconstitutional overreach that punishes the poor and ignores the reality of criminal behavior. To deny the truth of these facts shows a total disdain for all Oregonians. I urge you to vote NO on HB 4145.

?Respectfully,

?George Shepherd

Beaverton, Oregon