

Dear Senate Rules Committee Members:

I write to ask you to approve HB 4145, which will provide a framework to implement Measure 114 when it is approved by the Oregon Supreme Court.

HB 4145 provides sensible gun safety restrictions. This bill respects our right to bear arms, and provides the necessary safety steps to owning a lethal firearm.

I believe the provisions in HB 4145 might have prevented my son, Daniel Riley Fujimoto, age 21, from taking his own life with a gun. Daniel had struggled with depression for some months before July 29, 2010, the day he hit bottom. Had Daniel been required to take a gun safety class and apply for a permit, he would not have been able to walk into a gun shop, buy a gun, and take his life less than an hour later.

According to Oregon Health Authority, in 2024, Oregon had 663-gun deaths. Of these, 79%, or 524 persons, were suicides.

Missouri repealed its 1927 permit-to-own law in 2007. According to a recent study by Johns Hopkins, the repeal resulted in a 16.1% rise in suicides.

In contrast, according to the National Institutes of Health, Connecticut's permit-to-own law, established after the Sandy Hook tragedy, cut its suicide rate by 15.4%.

If the permit-to-own requirement in HB 4145 results in a 15% decrease in Oregon suicides, 79 people will remain alive each year who otherwise would take their own lives with a gun.

Will you please -- very sensibly -- think of these people and vote yes on HB 4145?

Sincerely,

Erin Riley