

Submitter: Nathan Beck
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I am sending this in as my written testimony against HB4145 for the state of Oregon.

I myself am a honorably retired veteran with over 21 years of service in both the United States Marine Corps as well as the United States Air Force. I spent just over 7 years in the Middle East during my time in the service. I am also a certified Firearms Trainer and I teach gun safety classes, as well as Concealed Carry classes, including advanced topics such as decision making/problem solving and tactical anatomy.

The requirement of a permit to purchase as an addition to the background check that we already have to do to purchase a firearm legally makes absolutely no sense to me. I get that there has been an uptick of shootings across the United States recently, however if you look at the statistics, over 80 percent of those are committed with firearms that were obtained illegally, this bill creates a blocker for a legal citizen to purchase a firearm to protect themselves or their family, while doing absolutely nothing to limit the criminals from continuing to obtain their firearms on the streets. As well this will create an additional financial blocker for the low income families that cannot afford the cost for the permit.

Additionally the requirement for a limited magazine size instead of the standard capacity magazines that come with firearms today is an asinine thought. If the magazine size is such an issue, why is law enforcement exempt from it? The argument is that they may need those rounds to protect themselves and the citizens that they are protecting. Folks such as myself a "well armed citizen" with a high level of advanced training is also charged with protecting others. Why are we to be punished that our ability to protect ourselves and our families is limited or why is it any less important than a police officers?

I firmly oppose this bill, as it is founded in fear, not in facts. The facts are clearly stated above and I do not appreciate my rights to protect my family being hampered by folks that do not understand what that means, nor have the ability to do it themselves.

I live in a small town outside of Portland I am within 3 miles of the local police station, and yet the response time for an emergency call is over 5 minutes in my city. Most gun fights (if they happen) are over in less than a minute. Infringing on my rights to protect myself with no other alternative just puts citizens at risk in the state from the criminals that wish to do us harm, or take our hard earned property.

thank you