

Submitter: Bonnie Mogstad
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I strongly oppose measure HB 4145 as it Nullifies Voter Intent by Rewriting Measure 114 Without New Consent

Measure 114 was very narrowly passed by a slim margin in 2022. Its language and provisions reflect the specific policy choices regarding permit fees, timelines, and scope.

HB 4145 rewrites these provisions in ways that were never presented to voters — increasing fees, lengthening permit processing times, and layering in exemptions that dilute the law’s ostensible purpose. This subversion of the ballot initiative process undermines democratic legitimacy and forcing through a contentious bill with an “emergency clause” — making it take effect immediately upon signature — risks circumventing meaningful public scrutiny and public accountability.

The reported doubling of the permit decision window and fee increase have no established causal link to enhanced public safety.

HB 4145 would impose a complex permit system on county sheriffs and state police that would require significant administrative resources without corresponding legislative funding.

The bill provides exemptions for active and retired law enforcement from permit requirements and magazine capacity limits. It establishes a two-tiered system of rights: one for certain government employees and another for everyone else.

HB 4145 represents a radical restructuring of voter-approved policy that:

- ? imposes unequal burdens on ordinary citizens,
- ? elevates government privilege for a select class,
- ? lacks evidence of improving public safety, and
- ? threatens constitutional rights, not preserves them.

Let the courts finish their work on the original bill.