

Submitter: Brandon Boling
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I write in strong opposition to House Bill 4145. While framed as an implementation measure for Ballot Measure 114, HB 4145 far exceeds what voters approved — erecting financial barriers to a constitutional right, burdening law-abiding citizens, and manipulating the judiciary to silence opposition.

It exceeds the will of the voters.

Measure 114 passed by only 50.1%. Yet HB 4145 doubles the permit issuance window from 30 to 60 days and raises permit fees by over 130% — from \$65 to \$150, with renewals at \$110. These increases were never on the ballot. Oregonians voted for one thing and are being handed another.

It creates unconstitutional financial barriers.

Steep fee increases function as a poll tax on a constitutional right. Low-income Oregonians — often those with the greatest need for self-defense — will be priced out of lawful firearm ownership. Courts have consistently held that government cannot condition a fundamental right on the ability to pay escalating fees.

It burdens the law-abiding while ignoring criminals.

The permit system is expected to triple call volume at local law enforcement agencies. The legislature itself pushed the effective date to January 1, 2028, admitting the system isn't ready — yet presses forward anyway. Worse, a single non-domestic-violence misdemeanor assault within four years is enough to permanently bar someone from obtaining a permit. This is disproportionate and sweeping.

Criminals will not comply with permitting requirements. There is no credible evidence that permit-to-purchase schemes reduce violent crime.

It manipulates the judiciary.

HB 4145 mandates that all legal challenges be filed in Marion County Circuit Court — deliberately bypassing the Harney County court where a judge previously ruled Measure 114 unconstitutional. Forum-shopping through legislation is an affront to judicial independence. The NRA's challenge in *Eyre v. Rosenblum* remains active in the 9th Circuit, and this provision appears designed to insulate the law from accountability.

Even supporters of gun regulation have objected.

Representative Paul Evans, a Democrat, called the bill “a dangerous precedent,” arguing it requires Oregonians to seek government permission before exercising a constitutional right.

Conclusion

HB 4145 does not honor Oregon voters — it exceeds their mandate. It does not make Oregon safer — it burdens the law-abiding while doing nothing to disarm criminals. I urge the Senate to vote NO.