

Submitter: Diane Peterson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, and members of the Senate Rules Committee,

I'm with the Alliance for a Safe Oregon, testifying in support of HB 4145. Oregonians need and deserve safety from firearm tragedies. HB 4145 makes fixes to Measure 114, the gun tragedy prevention ballot measure voted into law by the majority of voters in 2022. We need to implement Measure 114, and this bill will allow that to happen. As a long time advocate on this issue, I've met many survivors whose lives have been forever changed by a firearm. Many of these tragedies could have been prevented by Measure 114, including an alarming number of suicides.

Suicide is a problem in Oregon. It makes up the majority of firearm deaths in our state, and the majority of suicides happen with a firearm. The permit to purchase will put time and distance between buying a gun and following through with taking one's life. With HB 4145, Oregon has a chance to prevent impulsive acts from becoming permanent tragedies.

In addition to the permit, this bill requires a completed background check and hands-on safety training. It also limits magazines of 10 or more rounds of ammunition. Research shows these are all measures that prevent suicides, homicides, and mass shootings.

I urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you,
Diane Peterson