



HB 4145

Favorable

TO: Chair Jama, Vice Chair Starr and Members of the Committee
Oregon Senate Committee on Rules

FROM: Kelly Roskam
Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions

DATE: February 27, 2026

RE: HB 4145 Modifies the firearm permit provisions of Ballot Measure 114

I am the Director of Law and Policy at the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions. The Center for Gun Violence Solutions at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health conducts rigorous scientific research to assess the effectiveness of strategies to curb all forms of gun violence.

Research that my colleagues have conducted shows that permit to purchase laws have reduced virtually all forms of gun violence, such as firearm homicide, firearm suicide, shootings of and by police and the diversion of firearms for criminal purpose. For example, Connecticut's permit to purchase law was associated with a 28% reduction in the state's firearm homicide rate and a 33% reduction in firearm suicides.¹ Conversely, the years following Missouri's repeal of its permit to purchase law saw a 25% increase² in firearm homicides and a 16% increase³ in firearm suicides.

When that evidence indicates a strategy will save lives, we advocate for its adoption. I urge you to vote in favor of HB 4145.

¹ ² See Rudolph KE, Stuart EA, Vernick JS, & Webster DW, *Association between Connecticut's permit-to-purchase handgun law and homicides*, AM. J. OF PUB. HEALTH (2015); Crifasi CK, Meyers JS, Vernick JS, & Webster DW, *Effects of changes in permit-to-purchase handgun laws in Connecticut and Missouri on suicide rates*, PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (2015).

² Webster D, Crifasi CK, & Vernick JS, *Effects of the repeal of Missouri's handgun purchaser licensing law on homicides*, J. OF URBAN HEALTH (2014)

³ Crifasi CK, Meyers JS, Vernick JS, & Webster DW, *Effects of changes in permit-to-purchase handgun laws in Connecticut and Missouri on suicide rates*, PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (2015).



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH

Center for
Gun Violence Solutions

Sincere Regards,

Kelly Roskam, JD