

Submitter: Kirsti Wartenbee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I am new mother with a husband who works out of town often. I believe this measure will negatively affect my ability to protect myself and especially my child from harm. It is known that criminals by nature do not follow laws, but this measure puts me at a large disadvantage for a number of reasons when it comes to protecting myself and my infant. Between the cost of finding childcare to follow these new rules and the magazine limits imposed, many women and mothers will not have equal access to protection as a criminal who may wish them harm.

Reliable childcare is hard to find and expensive. If it is hard for me, as a married mother to find childcare to attend a course to receive a permit to purchase, imagine a single mother who wants to protect herself and her child. Add the cost of childcare onto the cost of the permit to purchase and a single mother may have to choose between paying her bills or paying for self protection. We shouldn't have to pay for childcare to attend a course and wait an extended period of time to receive self protection. A criminal doesn't need to abide by these same rules and could cause harm while waiting for this lengthy process.

Now imagine a mother and her infant are attacked by a criminal carrying a firearm with magazines of unlimited capacity. She is already at a disadvantage in general trying to protect her child, but take extra bullets away from the mother and see if she stands a chance.

I am asking you to please consider these implications and the hardships they will place on law-abiding citizens and mothers such as myself.