

Submitter: Sean Vaughan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145
Testimony Opposing HB 4145

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sean Vaughan and I oppose HB 4145.

First, I want to address process. When a committee pauses a vote mid-count and reconvenes after members have had time to reconsider, it creates the appearance that outcomes are being managed rather than decided. Whether technically allowed or not, that damages public trust. If legislation must be paused to secure passage, it should not move forward at all.

When legislation advances despite procedural controversy, it sends a message that outcomes matter more than integrity of process. That perception alone is damaging, regardless of party or policy position.

Second, HB 4145 goes beyond “implementation.” It changes timelines, increases fees, creates a centralized database, and carves out exemptions for certain classes of citizens. Those were not explicit voter mandates. This bill materially alters the burden placed on law-abiding Oregonians.

Extending permit timelines to 60 days and increasing fees up to \$150 creates financial and procedural barriers that disproportionately impact working families. Rights should not depend on income level or administrative backlog.

Creating exemptions for active and retired law enforcement establishes unequal treatment under the law. If a policy is necessary for public safety, it should apply equally. If it cannot apply equally, its justification deserves scrutiny.

Additionally, centralizing a database of permit holders — even if shielded from public records — creates privacy concerns and long-term data security risks without demonstrated evidence that such a database improves safety outcomes.

Oregonians expect transparency, equal protection, and faithful implementation of voter intent — not expansion through legislative modification.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 4145.

Thank you.