

Submitter: Charles Howell
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

I am strongly opposed to HB 4145 for numerous reasons. The primary reasons are, in no particular order, start with the intentional efforts to minimize the amount of time that Oregon Citizens had to provide testimony, both written and in person. Changing of testimony dates and times only compounded this action. Another reason is Rep. Kropf's behavior towards Rep. Tran and the subsequent efforts to down play the significance of his inappropriate behavior. I should note that I worked 30+ years as a HR professional in several multinational companies. The behavior Kropf exhibited towards Tran would at a minimum have resulted in a written, final warning if not termination after an investigation. That there is no investigation demonstrates to me that it is common knowledge his behavior was inappropriate but is acceptable towards getting HB 4145 passed.

I am absolutely astounded that the requirement to purchase a permit or license to exercise a constitutional right is being considered. The FBI electronically scans the finger prints to do a search for criminal activity, so even if the original finger print cards are returned the FBI will have an electronic record of those finger prints. I find it ironic that so many government officials are opposed to federal law enforcement officers performing their jobs in Oregon yet are gladly willing to turn over finger print records with no concern of how they may be used in the future.

Additional reasons for opposition are the carve out for current and former police and probation officers in not needed a permit to purchase a firearm. All citizens of Oregon should be treated equally with no 'carve out' for a special few.

As a current CCW holder in both Oregon and Idaho, I have undergone training, finger printing, back ground checks and legal education for these licenses. How does requiring me to have a permit to purchase, which is a duplication of what I have already done in two separate states to obtain CCWs, enhance public safety? It does NOT. It does what the sponsors of this want and that is to add cost and difficulty to purchasing a firearms. Interestingly when I first obtained an Oregon CCW, the reason for it at that time is so I would not have to do a waiting period if buying a handgun.

The magazine ban is unrealistic and I expect will not be enforced in many of the rural counties due to lack of staffing by law enforcement agencies. If this legislation passes, I will not comply with this law primarily because several of the firearms I use for concealed carry have magazines that do not meet the requirements. Unless some manufacturer decides to make and sell 10 round magazines that would work in my firearms, they would otherwise be effectively outlawed. This I believe is one of

the unspoken intentions of this bill.

It is extremely frustrating that the so called purpose of this legislation is to ensure the safety of Oregon Citizens when in reality it will have no impact to reduce gun violence. Criminals currently obtain firearms illegally and HB 4145 would do nothing to change that. The money and effort spent on trying to enact this legislation would be better spent in enforcing current firearm laws and providing more mental health services for Oregon Citizens.

There are additional reasons I am in opposition to HB 4145 but am unable to submit them due to the space limitation of this process.

Regards,
Charles Howell