

Submitter: Jon Lutz
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Dear Oregon Senators,

I am writing to you on this fine Sunday morning, with a high level of concern, indeed, FEAR regarding the overweening and potentially very oppressive HB-4145. I am a retired infectious disease internist, an honorably discharged Navy Medical Corps officer (including 2 1/2 yrs in ICELAND-you're welcome citizens!) and a father. I use firearms recreationally for informal target shooting and, infrequently for hunting. I wish to strongly assert that I have not just a Constitutional right, nor a God-given right but a NATURAL right to DEFEND myself, my family, etc. if need be with FORCE OF ARMS. This tradition and behavior goes back MILLENNIA!

I am strongly opposed to almost all parts of HB-4145 because if they are not constitutional, they are indeed potentially oppressive to the citizenry.

I say NO to any state-wide or Federal gun or gun-owner registration. Gosh, what could possibly go wrong? How about the SLAUGHTER of unarmed Iranian civilians who were protesting for their human rights in January, gunned down by the militias and the police by the THOUSANDS?

NO to Permit-to-Purchase! How can requiring a citizen to submit a "Mother-may-I" form to local police or the county sheriff be consistent with the RIGHT under to second amendment to bear arms? As best I can tell, it has NOT been resolved at the level of the U.S. Supreme Court. Highly likely it WILL be in the not too distant future.

I am opposed the increase of the waiting period from 30 to 60 days. This is truly burdensome and oppressive. The proposal to increase the firearms fee from \$65 to \$150 is excessive and I am opposed to it. Surely Jason Kropf's chief goal here is to have the acquisition cost serve as a deterrent.

The proposed requirement to have a government-sactioned instructor teach the would-be newbie firearms owners how to safely handle, use, care for and store is unnecessary overkill! Not only is this not rocket science, it isn't even brain-surgery! As for myself, I was instructed by my father who grew up on a farm and who was a Navy combat veteran of the war in the Pacific. Mr. Kropf and most of the other Democratic legislators would assert that was not good enough? Surely you all are joking.

I will close with two historical quotes:

"A martial nobility and stubborn commons, POSSESSED OF ARMS (my emphasis), tenacious of property, and collected into constitutional assemblies, form the ONLY BALANCE CAPABLE OF PRESERVING A FREE CONSTITUTION AGAINST THE ENTERPRISES OF AN ASPIRING PRINCE (my emphasis)." Sir Edward Gibbon, The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Vol. 1, Chapter III.

"No free man shall be debarred the use of arms." Thomas Jefferson.