House Bill 4145, vastly expands the category of people who will be prohibited from owning firearms. I urge Oregonians to not allow their elected government officials to take any of their rights away especially when they are taken incrementally. Even if it is a class or category of people you think you will not belong to.

My understanding of this bill is that anyone who gets a restraining order against them by a "family or household member" would now be prohibited from owning a firearm.

Family or house hold member is defined to be

A) Spouses

B) former spouses

C) Adult persons related by blood or marriage

D) Persons cohabiting with each other

E) Persons who have cohabited with each other or who have been involved in a sexually intimate relationship

F) Unmarried parents of a minor child.

First, Section 27 of Oregon's constitution states: "Right to bear arms; military subordinate to civil power. The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defence [sic] of themselves and the State, but Military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power[.]

In my opinion, its pretty clear that these changes would be infringing on the rights of the people getting served a restraining order, when the state has no justified reason to confiscate their firearms.

Second, people who comply with restraining orders are law abiding citizens, and would likely comply with a weapons prohibition, however people who do not comply with restraining orders would likely not comply with weapons prohibition or any law for that matter.

Regards,

Michael W. Rapp