

Submitter: George Shepherd  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SCR205

Testimony in Opposition to HB 4145

?To: The Senate Committee on Rules

From: George Shepherd, Beaverton, OR

Date: March 3, 2026

Subject: Strong Opposition to HB 4145 – An Affront to Law-Abiding Citizens

?To the Members of the Senate Committee on Rules:

?My name is George Shepherd. I am a resident of Beaverton and a law-abiding citizen. I am writing to you today to express my absolute and unwavering opposition to HB 4145.

?It is deeply offensive to listen to the sheer ignorance displayed by those supporting this bill. Many of these individuals have been fed a diet of lies by the people imposing this tyranny on law-abiding citizens like myself. If the proponents of this bill are not intentionally lying about the statistics, they are just as ignorant as the people they are spreading this misinformation to. This committee and the sponsors of this bill consistently avoid seeking testimony from actual firearm experts because doing so would prove them wrong and expose this quest for complete control over the people they are supposed to serve.

?Institutionalized Inequality

?HB 4145 creates a clear "two-tier" system of citizenship. Under this bill, it is perfectly legal for retired law enforcement and probation officers to own and use normal-capacity magazines for their personal, off-duty use. Yet, for the rest of us, possession of those same tools is treated as a criminal offense.

?If the government deems these magazines necessary for the safety of a retired officer in their private life, that is the only proof needed that they are necessary for the rest of us. We face the same threats and the same need for self-defense. By carving out these exemptions, you are admitting that these tools have a valid defensive purpose while simultaneously stripping that protection away from the average citizen.

?Reality of Self-Defense

?We must be honest about the reality of public safety in Oregon:

?Police Response Times: In an emergency, response times are often less than acceptable. It takes far too long for help to arrive when seconds count.

?911 is Not a Shield: Calling 911 is simply not an option when you are being actively attacked. You are your own first responder.

?Criminals Ignore the Law: Common sense proves that criminals do not obey laws.

HB 4145 only punishes the law-abiding, while those who intend to do harm will continue to carry whatever they please.

?Financial Tyranny and Delayed Rights

?The Democrat super-majority has held power for so long it has led them to a state of

tyranny where they no longer care what the people want. This bill places an insurmountable financial burden on low-income citizens like myself. By doubling permit fees and adding bureaucratic hurdles, you are making a constitutional right a luxury for the wealthy.

?I know more about firearms and firearm safety than the people imposing this bill because I am a firearm owner who is constantly training and studying the law. Meanwhile, those buying into this misinformation believe what they are told without question, as if they have been indoctrinated.

?Always remember: A right delayed is a right denied. By creating these obstacles, you are denying Oregonians their fundamental right to self-defense.

?I urge this committee to stop this overreach and respect the rights of all citizens, not just a privileged few. Please vote NO on HB 4145.

?Sincerely,

?George Shepherd

Beaverton, Oregon