

Submitter: Sarah Blankenship
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition
2026-302
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

Please vote no on SB 1599.

To move the referendum vote, (which clearly stated it would be held in November on the petition document) to May would be dishonest politics. 250,000 of the 3,100,000 registered Oregon voters signed this referendum in under a month. That means 1 out of 12 voters in Oregon asked for this to be on the November ballot. It would be wrong to say you represent the people and then attempt to make this change.

Those representatives who believe this 4.3 billion tax to be morally right and a necessity for Oregon should be willing to face the voters on the same November ballot with their 4.3 billion tax they forced through right by their name for re-election.

Legislators for the 4.3 billion new tax forced it through with a governor called special session over 2025 Labor Day weekend even after across the aisle asked for better prioritization of state funds. Also public testimony overwhelmingly opposed more new taxes and asked for more financial accountability. Then the governor delayed until the final few days to sign the new tax into law attempting to reduce signature collecting days for the referendum. The referendum got over 250,000 signatures in less than a month. Now Sen. Rob Wagner and Rep. Julie Fahey submitted SB 1599 to move the referendum vote to the May election instead of the November election.

If legislators truly believe the 4.3 billion in new taxes to be right, then they should stand behind it and not try to distance their actions from voter accountability.

Please vote no on SB 1599.