

Submitter: Javier Sodo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition  
2026-302

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

I oppose SB 1599. This referendum has already been properly qualified for the November general election, when voter turnout is highest and participation is most representative. Moving it to the May primary is a political maneuver that limits voter engagement and weakens the voice of everyday Oregonians.

Over 250,000 citizens signed to put this measure before voters in November, with the expectation of a full, fair process — including adequate time for public education and arguments in the Voters' Pamphlet. Fast-tracking it to a low-turnout primary disrespects that effort and undermines direct democracy.

The legislature should not interfere with a citizen-led referendum for political convenience. Respect the voters. Keep the referendum on the November ballot.

Reject SB 1599