

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

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Glenn Lancaster. I'm a resident of Senate District 13 and a candidate for Oregon State Senate.

I'm here to oppose SB 1599.

More than 250,000 Oregonians signed petitions with a clear understanding: this measure would appear on the November 2026 general election ballot. That date was printed on the signature sheets. Voters relied on it. Volunteers relied on it. Campaigns organized around it.

Changing the election date after signatures were gathered breaks faith with the public.

Regardless of party, this sets a dangerous precedent. If the Legislature can retroactively alter the rules once citizens have already participated, then no future petition process can be trusted. Today it's this measure. Tomorrow it could be any other issue that becomes politically inconvenient.

Democracy depends on stable rules and good faith. You don't move the goalposts after the game has started.

The Legislature already had opportunities to address timing questions before petitions were circulated. Doing it now disenfranchises hundreds of thousands of Oregonians who acted in reliance on the law as it existed.

This isn't about whether you support or oppose the underlying measure. It's about respecting voters, honoring the process, and preserving confidence in Oregon elections.

I urge you to vote NO on SB 1599 and allow the measure to proceed on the ballot date voters were promised.

Thank you for your time.

Glenn Lancaster
Wilsonville, Oregon