

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

An emergency session was called to get this Transportation boondoggle passed, then Governor Kotek waited until the last possible minute to sign it (some "emergency"). Even given an abbreviated amount of time to gather signatures to put a referendum in opposition to this legislation on the November 2026 ballot, more than twice the needed signatures were turned in. The SoS announced it had qualified to be put on the November 2026 ballot. Now legislators are citing another "emergency" to move it to the May 2026 ballot, knowing that voter turnout is limited due to Oregon's closed primary elections. Many people without political affiliation don't bother returning their ballot.

The referendum needs to be on the General Election ballot in November 2026, when more Oregon voters are engaged and will return their ballots. Those who signed the petitions knew this was being planned for the November ballot. The SoS announced it had qualified to be placed on the November ballot. Stop moving the goalposts to suit political agendas! Voters want this on the November 2026 ballot!