

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

Dear Co-Chairs Jama and Gomberg, and Members of the Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition 2026-302,

I strongly oppose SB 1599, which would move the vote on Referendum Petition 302 from the November 2026 general election to the May 2026 primary. We Oregonians signed the referendum in an unprecedented amount of time and in droves—specifically to ensure it would appear on the November general election ballot. It is our Constitutional right to protect our private property through a vote in the general election, which consistently has the highest voter turnout. This gives more Oregonian voices the opportunity to be heard.

Attempting to move the referendum to the May primary, where turnout is substantially lower, is inappropriate at best. Additionally, declaring SB 1599 an "emergency" misuses the intent and purpose of emergency declarations. Together, these actions appear to be underhanded tactics that undermine the will of Oregonians—We The People.

Rather than disregarding the clear intent and will of voters, the moral and Constitutional course of action is to allow the referendum to appear on the November ballot. Doing so would help maintain integrity and strengthen public trust in our representatives. After all, isn't the role of a representative to represent Oregonians according to the Constitution and the principles of liberty?

I urge you to vote no on SB 1599.

Respectfully,
Heather Hall