

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

Vote NO on SB 1599. This bill shifts the transportation tax vote from the high-turnout November 2026 general election to the traditionally low-turnout May 2026 primary, undermining voter trust and the integrity of Oregon's referendum process.

Oregonians signed the referendum with the expectation of a November vote. Changing the rules after signatures were gathered tilts the playing field by attempting to reduce participation. Supporters of the referendum have also made clear there is no emergency justifying this change - Oregon already has transportation funding, and the real issue is accountability and prioritization, not a rushed vote.

Election rules should be neutral and stable, not adjusted to influence outcomes. Protect the referendum process and reject SB 1599.