

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

Oregon prides itself on being a democracy, where the voice of the people is heard and listened to. In fact our lawmakers yell it from the rooftops, that the voice of the people will not be silenced and that there will be "No Kings". But Oregon is trying to have a Queen in Tina Kotek, just as you are trying to silence the voice of the voters who submitted over 250,000 signatures to vote on the transportation bill in November. Queen Tina is afraid that this bill will run next to her name and hurt her chances of re-election. She is scared that the people might actually have a voice that is different than hers. The reality is, Salem is out of touch with Oregon citizens who are struggling to stay afloat in this current economy. Many Oregonians are having a difficult time making ends meet and lawmakers want to make it more difficult by adding more taxes. When Oregonians rally to make their voices heard, lawmakers scramble to quash their voices in strategic plays to quell the dissent. That is NOT democracy, that IS an autocracy! That is Queen Tina being a hypocrite from her throne in Salem.