

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

I absolutely oppose SB 1599. At the insistence of Governor Kotek this transportation bill was passed by the Oregon Legislature in 2025. Sufficient signatures were then gathered to refer the legislation to Oregon voters in November of 2026.

Now SB 1599 comes along to move the referral vote to the primary election on May 19, 2026. Obviously, Governor Kotek and the Democrats in the legislature favor a smaller voter turnout in May than on November 3rd.

Governor Kotek and the Democrat majority don't care about what Oregon voters want. 250 thousand Oregonians signed petitions to refer this gas tax to the ballot in November. The transportation bill was a failed piece of legislation from the start and Oregon voters who have already voiced their dislike for the bill want a November vote to put an end to it once and for all.