

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

To Whom It May Concern,  
My name is Kevin Ray Maden, and I am an Oregon resident.  
I am writing to express my opposition to the Senate Bill 1599 that would move the  
vote on Oregon's  
no-tax or gas tax issue from the November general election to a May election.  
Changing the timing of this vote reduces public participation and transparency.  
November general  
elections consistently have higher voter turnout and better represent the will of the  
broader  
population. Moving this issue to a May ballot limits voter engagement and risks  
excluding working  
families, rural residents, and others who may be less able to participate in off-cycle  
elections.  
Decisions involving taxes and long-term financial impacts on Oregonians should be  
made when the  
greatest number of voters are paying attention and have the opportunity to  
participate. Altering the  
election timing appears to favor a smaller electorate rather than encouraging full and  
fair  
democratic involvement.  
I respectfully urge lawmakers to keep any vote on this issue in the November general  
election,  
where it belongs, and to allow all Oregonians an equal opportunity to have their  
voices heard.  
Thank you for considering my comments.  
Sincerely,  
Kevin Ray Maden  
Oregon