

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

It is appalling and unconstitutional that our representatives would try to take away our hard won battle and silence so many voices. Many of us took time out of our busy work weeks to make sure we had a voice and now we are being forced to fight all over again for the same thing. Until the last few years myself and many family members and friends considered themselves longtime democrats, that has been changing. People are switching parties because we feel that our democratic representatives are not listening to the people and are abusing their powers. The trust is gone. Actions speak louder than words. Many of us Oregonians are struggling with inflation and rising costs already and the governor's proposed taxes show she is so far removed from understanding or caring about our struggles. Raising taxes cannot be the answer all the time. Many Oregonians are tired of being the bank for all these pet projects and new agencies because it takes money away from areas that our taxes are meant for. Quit coming back to us for more taxes when there are shortfalls because you have misspent our funds. I have to budget my accounts and prioritize my spending, so should the government. For these reasons I oppose moving the referendum to the May 19, 2026 Election. It should remain on the November 2026 ballot because that is what we fought for and won and taking it away is underhanded and should be illegal.