

Submitter: Daniele Riehl
On Behalf Of: Daniele and Ted J. Riehl
Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition
2026-302
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

Dear Senator Wagner, Representative Fahey, and Oregon Democrat Legislators,

We are writing in opposition of Senate Bill 1599 and in support of the referendum process. The Petitioners of Referendum Petition 2026-302, and each of us who signed said Petition, did so with an intention and an understanding that it would be on the November 2026 ballot. We followed the processes set forth by the State of Oregon to have our voice and our vote in November. Senate Bill 1599 completely overrides the processes the People had to abide by. We did not file a Referendum for May; we filed for November.

Contrary to the claim in SB 1599 ("SECTION 10. This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect on its passage"), there is no NO EMERGENCY warranting moving the vote on Petition 2026-302 sooner. If there was emergency, Governor Kotek would not have unsuccessfully tried to repeal the gas tax (HB 3991) upon realization that the Referendum 2026-302 was going to be successful. This is blatant partisan manipulation attempting to circumvent the voices of the citizens of this state. If not unlawful, it is certainly unethical.

Please respect the referendum law process by rejecting SB 1599. Allow the citizens of Oregon to exercise their right to vote in November.

Sincerely,
Daniele and Ted J. Riehl
Oregon City, Oregon