

Submitter: Rick McDaniel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition  
2026-302

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

Governor Kotek and her Democratic followers do not speak for what is best for Oregonians. The Transportation Funding bills are just another example of mis-managed tax payer funds and the underhanded tactics used to force their mis-guided policies and imposed more taxes on hard working Oregonians to cover their agendas. These underhanded, strong arm tactics are NO DIFFERENT then the current GOP Federal Administration.

ODOT is no better at put a working budget together than the Kotek administration as in the \$100 million mistake in their forecast and the past two large Kicker refunds. Both show ineptness in fiscal responsibly with tax payer funds. Not to mention the wild swings in \$s found when the public speaks out on the budget that Governor Kotek is in charge of.

The Legislative Assembly could not come to an agreement on the huge ODOT budget request for their mis-manage budget during the regular session. Then Governor Kotek took it upon herself to write a \$4 billion plus increase with unpopular gas tax hikes, large fee and usage increases in a delayed special session with a vote delayed to a holiday weekend in an attempt to deceive the public. During the vote where was Tina Kotek? She was on a tax payer funded boondoggle vacation to Japan disguised as a trade trip.

The Bill passed and then in a blatant attempt to fend off a petition against the bill, Governor Kotak did not signing the bill she rushed to get passed and put into law for over 30 days. Remember these funds were dire and needed. Stated by her own words layoffs would ensue and maintenance of roads would be delay as well as snow removal. Even with the delay tactics the petition to refer this bill to the voters gain 250,000 signatures in less than three weeks. NO layoffs happened. All hype to deceive Oregonians.

Now the that the funding bill has been legally referred to the voters on the November ballot, Governor Kotek and her deceitful legislation see how unpopular this bill is want to change it to the May ballot where a smaller voter turnout is expected. A way to possibly tip favor in their direction. However, the real reason is Governor Tina Kotek, who is up for re-election and is scared to face the voters on her policies, poor track record on affordable housing, the homeless and education and this bill to raise taxes in the November general election. Housing has gotten worse, there are more homeless than ever before and Oregon ranks in the bottom on education in the

nation. Nothing has gotten better with Governor Kotek at the helm. She is also just now waking up to the effects of her over regulation and taxation that she has caused on the state as businesses and people flee Oregon by the thousands.

I urge all to vote a big NO on SB 1599. Just another in a long line of deceitful tactics to silence and under mind the voices of the people of the once great state of Oregon.