

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

I strongly oppose SB 1599, which moves the vote on Referendum Petition 2026-302 from the November 3, 2026 general election to the May 19 primary.

The petition explicitly states that the referendum shall be placed on the November 3, 2026 General Election ballot. Over 250,000 Oregonians signed based on that promise. Changing it to a lower-turnout primary violates the explicit terms of the petition, undermines voter intent, subverts the referendum process, and appears designed to suppress the measure's success.

Honor the petition's clear language and the will of the signers—keep the vote in November.