

Submitter:	Mark Booth
On Behalf Of:	Oregonians
Committee:	Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition 2026-302
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1599

2025 House Bill 3991 should never have seen the light of day.

Rewarding ODOT mismanagement of taxpayer dollars with additional taxes and fees should have been the last thing the legislature would promote, given the state's precarious economic situation. Especially given the extraordinary amount of testimony from Oregon's citizens prior to that bill's passage.

But it was passed, and signed by the Governor, secretively and last-minute in an attempt to stave off a successful referendum effort.

However, 250,000-plus citizens schooled her and petition 2026-302 was signed and verified, directing that HB 3991 be placed on the November 2026 General Election ballot.

But, once again, the majority party of this legislature, in its zeal to subvert the will of the voters, to disregard accountability and to force unneeded new taxes and fees, has spawned Senate Bill 1599, seeking to advance the vote to the May 2026 Primary Election. The confessed goal is to reduce the chances of the referendum passing. The other obvious goal is to keep space between these "representatives" with their odious 2025 bill and their electability in the fall.

250,000 citizens provided real signatures, not just a statistical sampling.

SB 1599 must be discarded.

Thank you.