

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

Dear Representatives,

I strongly oppose the decision to place Referendum Petition 2026-302 on the May 19, 2026 primary ballot.

Voters signed that petition expecting a fair, high-participation election. Moving a statewide tax referendum to a low-turnout primary appears to serve political interests rather than the public. Election timing should protect voter voice and public trust — not shape the electorate.

Also, a May election makes it impossible for citizens to organize and submit statements to the state Voters' Pamphlet, limiting meaningful public participation in the process.

I urge you to reconsider this decision and put voters first.

Sincerely,  
Ross Smith  
Lincoln City