

Submitter: Ruth R. Nelson  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition  
2026-302  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

I am opposed to the move to switch the vote on SB 1599 from the General Election in November 2026 to the Primary Election in May 2026.

As I collected hundreds of signatures from Oregonians from across all parties: Democrat, Republican, Independents, Non Affiliated Voters, and more, I heard many comments. Some of those comments were, of course, regarding the oppressive and burdensome taxes being foisted upon the hardworking people of Oregon.

However, by far the comments I heard were about Governor Kotek and her underhanded tactics regarding the big tax bill. I don't know if the Governor understands the anger against her for calling a special session over Labor Day and then not sticking around to offer support for her own bill. Her delay in signing the bill was not lost on the taxpayers in Oregon and they were ANGRY and willingly signed the referendum. That Governor Kotek wants to move the vote from November to May shows either that she is entirely out of touch with the wishes of the people or that she understands but doesn't care what voters want.

I also believe that the "Great Disconnect" that voters seem to have had in the past is beginning to disappear. In the past, voters elected their representatives to go to the State Legislature and didn't think much more about it.

Now they are beginning to understand that those they elected are making awful decisions to tax them into oblivion (while receiving very little benefit for that taxation). They are beginning to understand that those elected representatives are the ones coming up with these horrible ideas. They are beginning to understand that in general, there is one Party that is behind this taxation and downright corruption. They will not forget the constant game-playing by the Party that is currently jerking us around once again with their cutesy attempt to thwart the will of the voters by switching the vote from November to May.

Question: Do you have the courage to stand for the people of Oregon? Will you support the will of the people and oppose SB 1599?

Please know that position of each legislator will be noted.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

