

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

I am writing in strong opposition to any legislative effort that would move a referendum that was signed by over 250,000 Oregonians to be on the November 2026 ballot to a less-participatory May 2026 primary election. Voters who took the time to sign a petition did so with the understanding that their referendum would be decided by the broader electorate in November, when turnout is highest and representative of our state's full diversity of voices. To push this bot to May of 2027 is telling the residents of Oregon you do not care about them and that following the laws and rules doesn't actually matter if you are the government. If this is pushed off after so many Oregonians rallied to have it placed on the November ballot I think we are at a great risk of civil unrest.