

Submitter: Stephanie Schriber

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition  
2026-302

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

I strongly oppose the bill moving Referendum Petition 2026-302 to the May 19, 2026 primary election under an “emergency” declaration.

This law was rushed through a special session as an emergency, yet the public waited.....and waited..... and waited.....before a vote was allowed to take place. There was no emergency, just theatrics. Now that citizens have exercised their constitutional right to refer the law, another “emergency” is being used — this time to move the vote to a lower-turnout election.

Primary elections draw significantly fewer voters than November general elections. Shifting this referendum off the general election ballot limits public participation and undermines the purpose of the referendum process.

If this policy can’t withstand a general election, it shouldn’t be shielded by procedural tactics. Oregonians deserve maximum transparency and full voter engagement on issues of this magnitude.

I urge you to oppose this bill and keep Referendum Petition 2026-302 on the November ballot.

Respectfully,  
Stephanie Schriber  
Tillamook, Oregon