

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

As one of the Chief Petitioners to the gas tax referendum, I strongly oppose SB 1599

At every step of the gas tax process, we have been met with unfairness and disregard for citizen input and transparency.

- ? • Ram-rodding the original gas tax during the final days of Session.
- ? • Undue hostile pressure/controversy to force lawmakers to vote yes.
- ? • Ram-rodding a hearing on Labor Day weekend.
- ? • Governor's delaying the time citizens had to collect signatures.
- Governor's secret Friday night signing (and then hid for 3-days)

Now, we face another unfair disregard of voters by swapping out the election date from the popular General Election, to instead, be in May when voter turn-out is much less.

Can the Legislature just be normal and fair for a moment?

Voters signed the referendum petition where it clearly states on the front page, in bold, that the election will be November 2026. Please honor what voters signed.

Lawmakers should read the Sunday Oregonian Editorial; "Lessons from a transportation disaster" (1/10/26) which urges lawmakers to stop the dysfunction over this tax.