

Submitter: Sandra Phillips

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition  
2026-302

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: SB1599

I am writing to strongly oppose efforts to move the SB1599 tax referendum from the November 2026 general election ballot to the May 2026 primary.

Over 250,000 Oregonians signed the petition to refer this tax to the voters in November, when the broadest cross-section of the public participates. Changing the election date after citizens have lawfully qualified the measure undermines the referendum process and erodes public trust.

Moving a major tax decision to a low-turnout primary election is not about voter access--it appears to be about managing the electorate rather than respecting it. The people followed the law, met the signature threshold, and earned their right to be heard in November.

I urge you to:

Respect the constitutional referendum process..

Honor the intent of the petition signers...

Keep the vote on SB1599 on the November general election ballot...

Oregonians deserve transparency, fairness, and respect for the rule of law.