

Submitter: ralph howell
On Behalf Of: The Oregon Electorate
Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition
2026-302
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

re: SB 1599 & HR 50 democracy on the sly

So the party of "democracy" and "citizen participation" rams down the throat of the electorate a what-they-know will be a very unpopular bill in the waning moments of the last session. Very sly. Then the governor sits on signing the bill till the very last minute to run out the referendum clock. Very sly. The sly machinations fail in an unprecedented manner as over 250,000 signatures appear in a matter of weeks to use "democracy" to stop a massively unpopular bill and force it to a democratic vote via referendum.

What do you do when faced with actual democracy? You immediately try to be "sly" to disenfranchise the electorate. A bill is created to move the vote to the primary from the general election where YOU will also be on the ballot to face voter anger. Very sly. Then you put an "emergency clause" on the bill to make sure there will be almost no chance that an angered electorate can stop it once again. Very sly. This is the "party of democracy" giving clear indication of their absolute contempt for the body politic. "Democracy" indeed.

The supporters of this action show only the "democracy" of proto-despots and total cowards. Your "sly" actions aimed at disenfranchising Oregon voters turn the Oregon Capitol from the Peoples' House into a house of ill-repute.

No on Senate Bill 1599 and HR50.