

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

I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose Senate Bill 1599.

This bill would move the vote on Referendum Petition 2026-302—the people’s referendum on the recent transportation funding increases—from the November 2026 general election to the May primary. The general election consistently sees much higher voter turnout, ensuring broader participation from all Oregonians. Shifting it to a lower-turnout primary risks suppressing voter voices on an important issue that affects taxes and fees for every driver and worker in our state.

A significant number of signatures were gathered in short order through a grassroots effort to qualify this referendum, reflecting strong public interest in having a direct say. Changing the date now feels like an attempt to undermine that democratic process. I believe referendums should be decided by the fullest possible electorate, not a smaller subset during a primary.

Please vote against SB 1599 and support keeping this measure on the November ballot where it belongs.