

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

Dear Chairs Gomberg and Jama, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tricia Hafner, and I am writing to express my opposition to SB 1599.

I care deeply about both responsible transportation funding and protecting the voice of voters. I have family members and many close friends who work for ODOT and depend on those jobs to support their families, so I understand how important transportation funding decisions are for our state and for the people who keep our infrastructure running. At the same time, changing the timing of this vote feels like it takes the people's voice away. It sends the message that those elected to represent us do not fully respect the process voters participated in. To many of us, it feels political and further weakens trust in our governmental process.

When Oregonians sign petitions and prepare for a vote, they should be able to trust that the timeline will remain consistent. Changing election timing after the fact can create confusion and weaken trust in the public process.

As a mother, I want my children to grow up in a state where civic participation is encouraged, accessible, and predictable. I respectfully ask lawmakers to keep the referendum on the November ballot so the largest number of Oregonians have the opportunity to participate.

I respectfully urge you to oppose SB 1599.

Thank you for your time and for your service to Oregon families.

Sincerely,

Tricia Hafner
Stayton, OR