

Submitter: Samuel Hampton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition  
2026-302

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

As an Oregonian who has watched Oregon leadership shortchange voters time and time again, last time as recently as last September when leadership called an emergency session to ramrod through an unfavorable bill to hike taxes in the form of a new higher gas tax, I wholeheartedly oppose SB1599. We united, Democrats and Republicans alike to oppose the first bill and collected more than the required signatures to put the "gas tax" on the November ballot, and even as Tina Kotek attempted to thwart the will of Oregonians and held off on signing the bill until the last minute, to shorten the time we could collect signatures in opposition to the "gas tax". I'm tired of Oregon leadership claiming to champion democracy as they crap on their constituents and the Oregon Constitution. We spoke loud and clear by the sheer volume of signatures collected from both sides of the isle. We want our say in November, not in May, which historically has low voter turnout. Don't shortchange us. As an Oregonian, I have to say, we deserve more and we deserve better leadership who actually see us as constituents, not just a bottomless wallet. Thanks.