

Submitter: Dean Suhr
On Behalf Of: Do not ignore 250k signers WE WILL REMEMBER
Committee: Joint Special Committee On Referendum Petition
2026-302
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1599

Greetings, I'm Dean Suhr from West Linn in Clackamas County.

I am a concerned taxpaying citizen and chief petitioner for IP-31, the Vote Before Tolls initiative. <https://VoteBeforeTolls.org>

I am opposed to SB-1599 and am asking you to not ignore the will of 250,000 referendum signers. DO NOT ADVANCE SB-1599 out of committee.
1599 is a politically-derived attempt to move the \$4.3B Gas Tax Increase Referendum away from the November ballot, where many of you and your peers will be up for re-election.

The 1599 PR spin says a public vote in May will allow ODOT to know what transportation funds they have to work with. 250,000 of us suggest it would be most appropriate to plan on the Referendum passing regardless of the date (we demand November), and immediately start working on transparent, efficient, focused, and taxpayer-friendly transportation finding planning.

I'd also like to remind you that, no matter what you do with the Referendum, Transportation funding will show up on the November ballot because Vote Before Tolls initiative signature gathering is actively underway and cannot be politically manipulated by the Legislature. IP-31 will be on the November ballot.

The long-known, but just recently announced, 250% price INCREASE – to \$17B – for the I-5 Interstate Bridge Replacement means that the Toll share of bridge funding jumps to \$11B ... a 10x increase!

\$4.3B and \$11B in new taxes and fees are fueling voter passion, engagement, and our memories!

VOTE NO on ADVANCING SB-1599 OUT OF COMMITTEE

We are watching and will remember in May and June how you respond to SB-1599.