

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

As you are aware transportation is a bi-partisan issue, and one that is weighing heavily on Oregon as it has for years. Increasing taxes with no clear and transparent explanation to the people who you expect to shoulder the weight of these increases is undemocratic and dishonest.

Hundreds of thousands of Oregonians exercised their civil liberties to sign the tax petition with the November ballot explicitly stated. And Oregonians deserve to have that respected by those elected to represent them in Oregon government.

Politics shape every moment of our lives from the moment we are born. Healthcare, food, housing, education, safety, and transportation. As we grow and become active members of the society we've created, I believe it is our responsibility to ensure these processes serve the people, and as our elected representatives it is your duty to respect the will of the people here.

I know it is probably easy to forget the millions of Oregonians when you arrive at work every day, since we are not physically there in front of you. But what you do everyday shapes people's lives and can be the difference in them being able to afford rent that month or buy food for themselves.

Tax legislature that increases costs by nearly 50% with no explanation of how that money will be managed is not fair to the people of this state. There are huge structural issues for Oregon's transportation, and more money will not fix that. It will just bleed out of the deep fissures that are already there and hurt the people who place their trust in you to support them.

I oppose SB 1599, more money with no clear plan is not the way to fix this and not a sound path forward. It deserves to be on the ballot in November and not rushed beforehand to take advantage of lower voter turnout in Spring elections.

Thank you for your time and consideration.