

## **JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFERENDUM PETITION 2026-302**

February 9, 2026  
01:00 PM

Hearing Room 50

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Kayse Jama, Co-Chair  
Sen. Khanh Pham  
Sen. Bruce Starr

Rep. David Gomberg, Co-Chair  
Rep. Willy Chotzen  
Rep. Lucetta Elmer

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst  
Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst  
Sam Koopman, Senior Committee Assistant

### **EXHIBITS:**

Exhibits from this meeting are available [here](#)

### **MEASURES/ISSUES:**

Adoption of Committee Rules – Organizational Meeting  
SB 1599 – Public Hearing

00:00:03 Meeting Called to Order  
00:00:04 Co-Chair Gomberg

00:00:57 **Adoption of Committee Rules - Organizational Meeting**  
00:00:58 Co-Chair Gomberg  
00:01:12 Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst  
00:01:19 MOTION: CO-CHAIR JAMA MOVES ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE RULES  
00:01:41 VOTE: 6-0-0  
AYE: SENS. PHAM, STARR, JAMA; REPS. CHOTZEN, ELMER, GOMBERG

00:01:49 **SB 1599 - Public Hearing**  
00:01:50 Co-Chair Gomberg  
00:02:11 Sen. Starr  
00:04:12 Rep. Ed Diehl, House District 17  
00:06:47 Rep. E Werner Reschke, House District 55  
00:08:31 Rep. Court Boice, House District 1  
00:11:02 Sen. Christine Drazan, Senate District 26  
00:13:10 Rep. Dwayne Yunker, House District 3  
00:15:57 Will Hobson, Communications Chair, Libertarian Party of Oregon  
00:17:02 Susanne Esch, Chair, Polk County Republican Party  
00:18:37 Jack Tibbetts, farmer, rancher, and business owner, Cottage Grove  
00:21:16 Catherine Caudle, resident, Redmond

**00:23:08** Phil Chang, Oregon Transportation Commissioner; Deschutes County Commissioner  
**00:24:49** Indigo Namkoong, Transportation Justice Coordinator, Verde  
**00:26:32** Felisa Hagins, Executive Director, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Oregon State Council  
**00:29:19** Brad Dennis, retired resident, Albany  
**00:31:23** Mike Surrect, retired veteran, Portland  
**00:32:59** Ronnie Daniels, resident, Polk County  
**00:35:08** Kaiea Saragosa, father and brother, Tigard  
**00:38:25** Annie Kallen, Chair, Portland Libertarians  
**00:42:17** Phillip O'Reilly, resident, Cove  
**00:43:45** Christian Honl, resident, Astoria  
**00:46:41** Les Poole, resident, Sweet Home  
**00:48:36** Scott Panida, small business owner, Dundee  
**00:50:12** Laurie Kimmell, Master Sergeant Retired, United State Air Force  
**00:52:11** Tim Cowan, Chair, Legislative Commission, Oregon Department, American Legion  
**00:53:57** Karen Goodness, resident, Salem  
**00:55:21** Jack Esp, retired hospital manager, Salem  
**01:00:46** Charles Howe, retired resident, Cottage Grove  
**01:02:35** Joe Buford, resident, Roseburg  
**01:04:52** Dean Suhr, President, Vote Before Tolls; Chief Petitioner, Initiative Petition 31  
**01:07:12** Nick Stark, Executive Director, Oregon Freedom Coalition  
**01:09:22** Dorothy (Dee) Von Eggers, resident, Wilsonville  
**01:11:43** Andrew Morrison, petition captain, Damascus  
**01:13:29** June Saragosa, homeschool mother  
**01:14:54** Jessica Davidson, Captain, No Gas Tax Referendum  
**01:18:19** Michael Peterson, affiliation unknown  
**01:20:23** Meeting Adjourned