

Submitter: Judith Sanders

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural  
Resources

Measure: HB5002

Co-Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Pham, and Committee Members,

I am writing to urge you to support maintaining or increasing the funding for Oregon's Native Plant Conservation Program in the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). Native plants are a critical resource in our state for health, economy, environment, biodiversity, culture, enjoyment, and more. Oregon Flora (<https://oregonflora.org>) notes that we have over 3,400 taxa of native plants. The Oregon Biodiversity Information Center (<https://inr.oregonstate.edu/orbic>) lists 195 of our state's native plants as critically imperiled due to the species' extreme rarity or its vulnerability to going extinct or being extirpated. The ODA's Native Plant Conservation Program is essential to produce critical work on the monitoring, protection, and listing of Oregon's threatened and endangered native plant species. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.