

Submitter: Jason Clinch

On Behalf Of: Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

Measure: HB5002

Native plant conservation in Oregon is important for a multitude of reasons including but not limited to:

- 1) Native plants provide food and habitat support for wildlife and other non-wildlife species that depend on them that introduced plants cannot.
- 2) Native plants are an essential part of Oregon's natural heritage and without them, that natural heritage is lost.
- 3) Native plants compete with and reduce the risk of invasive species establishment.
- 4) Native plants are part of our larger interconnected ecosystem that supports itself through the multitude of connections between different organisms within that ecosystem. Native plants often form the basis for the ecosystem and without them it would begin to unravel and fall apart or become an entirely different ecosystem with less diversity and nativity and incapable of supporting the species that make Oregon such a wonderful place to live.

I support continuing the current level funding for the Oregon Native Plant Conservation Program and all the incredible work they do.