

HB 3173 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/5, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University to compile and provide data regarding vegetation that grows without cultivation in this state. The measure requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (commission) to make a grant of \$400,000 to OSU each biennium and appropriates \$400,000 from the General Fund to the Commission to be distributed to OSU for implementation. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

Detailed Summary

- Establishes the OregonFlora Program (OFP) at Oregon State University in order to compile and provide data regarding vegetation that grows without cultivation in Oregon.
- Requires the OFP to make the compiled data available to state and federal agencies, educational institutions, businesses, scientists and the public through publications, a website, maps, photos, and other tools developed by the program.
- Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (commission) to make a grant of \$400,000 to OSU each biennium for the OFP.
- Appropriates \$400,000 General Fund moneys to the commission for distribution to OSU for implementation.
- Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 The amendment specifies the publishing requirement for the OregonFlora Program (OFP) to be **subject to restrictions enacted by the OFP to protect sensitive species, other at-risk species, or other sensitive data** and changes the appropriation amount from \$400,000 to **an amount as appropriated by the Legislative Assembly**.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

Vegetation that grows without cultivation includes native taxa, but also non-native plants that either escaped cultivation and have persisted in the wild for at least 3-5 years beyond the area where they were originally cultivated, or non-cultivated exotic plants such as weeds, waifs, or ballast plants. There are over 4700 native and naturalized plant species known in Oregon. 76 plant species are administratively protected by the Oregon Department of Agriculture ([OAR 603-073](#)) on all non-federal public lands.