



Legislative Fiscal Office  
 83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly  
 2025 Regular Session

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**Bill Title:** Relating to the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University; declaring an emergency.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Higher Education Coordinating Commission

**Summary of Fiscal Impact**

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Higher Education Coordinating Commission	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ 400,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 400,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Higher Education Coordinating Commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Measure Description**

The measure establishes the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University (OSU) to compile and provide data on vegetation that grows without cultivation in Oregon. The program is directed to make this data available to state and federal agencies, educational institutions, businesses, scientists, and the public through various resources, including publications, a website, maps, and photos, subject to restrictions enacted by the OregonFlora Program to protect sensitive or at-risk species and other sensitive data.

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) is required to award grants to Oregon State University (OSU) each biennium, as appropriated by the Legislative Assembly, to support the OregonFlora Program. The measure appropriates \$400,000 General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium to HECC for distribution to OSU to administer the program.

**Fiscal Analysis**

The measure appropriates \$400,000 General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium, as one-time funding, to HECC for distribution to OSU to establish the OregonFlora Program. While the bill establishes the program, OregonFlora was started at OSU in 1994. Historically, OSU Department of Botany and Plant Pathology has supported the OregonFlora program by providing indirect costs and office space. Grants and charitable donations covered salaries, benefits, and operating expenses. In 2008 and 2023, the program briefly suspended operations due to lack of funds. For fiscal year 2025, the program operating budget was \$343,857 total funds, with most of the revenues from donations. While the program continues to be supported by OSU, grants, and charitable donations, state support would provide a more stable revenue stream.

**Relevant Dates**

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.