

## HB 3173 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

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**Action Date:** 02/12/25

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.  
(Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 8-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 8 - Boice, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McDonald, McLain, Owens

**Exc:** 1 - Scharf

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/5, 2/12

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University (OSU) 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 to OSU each biennium as appropriated by the Legislative Assembly and appropriates \$400,000 from the General Fund to the Commission to be distributed to OSU for implementation in the 2025-2027 biennium. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

#### Detailed Summary

- Establishes the OregonFlora Program (OFP) at Oregon State University (OSU) in order to compile and provide data regarding vegetation that grows without cultivation in Oregon.
- Requires the OFP to make the compiled data, subject to restrictions enacted by the OFP to protect sensitive species, other at-risk species, or other sensitive 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 to OSU each biennium for the OFP, as appropriated by the Legislative Assembly.
- Appropriates \$400,000 General Fund moneys to the Commission for distribution to OSU for implementation in the 2025-2027 biennium.
- Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Efforts to include indigenous names and plant uses in the OregonFlora Program
- Provisions of the measure

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

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 grant amount the Higher Education Coordinating Commission is required to make to Oregon State University each biennium to **an amount as appropriated by the Legislative Assembly**. For the 2025-2027 biennium, this amount is \$400,000.

#### 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 three to five years beyond the area where they were originally cultivated, or non-cultivated exotic plants such as weeds, waifs, or ballast plants. There are over 4,700

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*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*

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native and naturalized plant species known in Oregon. Seventy-six plant species are administratively protected by the Oregon Department of Agriculture ([Oregon Administrative Rules 603-073](#)) on all non-federal public lands. The OregonFlora Program is currently based at the Oregon State University Herbarium, where it is funded through grants and contributions.