A-Engrossed House Bill 3173

Ordered by the House February 14 Including House Amendments dated February 14

Sponsored by Representatives MARSH, MCDONALD; Representative HARTMAN (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act creates a program at OSU regarding plant life in this state. The Act declares an emergency and becomes law on July 1, 2025. (Flesch Readability Score: 62.1).

Establishes the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University. Appropriates moneys to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be distributed to Oregon State University for purposes of the OregonFlora Program.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) The OregonFlora Program is established at Oregon State University in order to compile and provide data regarding vegetation that grows without cultivation in this state.

- (2) Subject to restrictions enacted by the OregonFlora Program to protect sensitive species, other at-risk species or other sensitive data, the OregonFlora Program shall make the data to be provided under subsection (1) of this section available to state and federal agencies, educational institutions, businesses, scientists and the public through publications, a website maintained by the program, maps, photos and other tools developed by the program.
- (3) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall make a grant to Oregon State University each biennium in an amount as appropriated by the Legislative Assembly for purposes of the program established under this section.

SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$400,000, which shall be distributed to Oregon State University for purposes of administering the program established under section 1 of this 2025 Act.

SECTION 3. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect July 1, 2025.

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