

1/31/2025

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Re: HB 3173 (Oregon Flora) - SUPPORT

Dear Committee Members:

I am an outdoor enthusiast, gardener and amateur plant grower. I strongly support HB 3173. The importance of maintaining and enhancing the valuable resource OregonFlora represents is understood by me, even though the past 20 years I have gravitated away from commercial plant production into other fields. The plant industry is a core agricultural industry supporting Oregon's economy and OregonFlora is a resource to maintaining the industry in the State.

My first career was in horticultural production, through managing large commercial production operations in the Northwest, principally Oregon and Washington. Over the years, we grew many horticultural varieties of Oregon Native plants as well as native species and varieties. Having a resource available to support production nurseries with accurate Oregon-based information is a real help to maintain the integrity of the industry. The Oregon Nursery Industry relies on integrity to maintain a competitive edge in the national marketplace for horticultural products. The maintenance of OregonFlora assists in the marketing of Oregon Nursery products across the nation.

I recently was allowed to join the Board of Directors for the Native Plant Society of Oregon where I am renewing my interest and appreciation for the diversity of Oregon flora. I now recognize the OregonFlora resource as a great strategic investment for Oregon to make to maintain a reliable resource to aide in fire recovery, resource management, to track the changes in climate and to support other industries that rely upon the beauty and wonder of the Oregon natural landscape as they visit and support the Oregon economy through their expenditures while in State.

I urge your support of House Bill 3173 to ensure the resources of OregonFlora can continue to be maintained and developed for users statewide.

Respectfully,



Marshall Doak

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