Submitter: Suzanne Matthews

On Behalf Of: Oregon

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural

Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB3173

I am writing to strongly encourage you to support HB 3173. Oregon Flora is a vital program site and is an important resource for plant research, historic documentation and explanation, preservation, information on pollination, native plants, invasive species, as well as is an up-to-date essential guide to gardeners in knowing how and what to plant for their particular region. As just one of 4,000 master gardeners in Oregon, who collectively volunteer tens of thousands of hours a year to our counties, we often use and refer to this site to assist residents in our communities who have plant questions. Many others, such as farmers, educators, scientists, and commercial growers, use this site on a daily basis for their work. Now more than ever, with many uncertainties in our future, we need to continue to operate and grow Oregon Flora, for the future of Oregon.