



February 3, 2025

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

Re: HB 3173 (Oregon Flora) - SUPPORT

Dear Committee members:

I am an ecologist, naturalist, and the Nursery Manager for the Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah's Native Plant Nursery. I strongly support HB 3173.

Our organization uses OregonFlora as our standard for all plant names and taxonomy. I frequently consult OregonFlora to verify names and spelling of botanical and common names. We teach our interns to use this resource and rely on it to keep us up-to-date. The data is curated by taxonomists, comprehensive, and readily accessible online. Its presentation of plant occurrences from multiple datasets lets me efficiently gather information that will be comprehensive in scope. OregonFlora's standardizing taxonomy assures that my work can be shared and accurately used by others, avoiding duplication of efforts and confusion.

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

Sincerely,

Mieko Aoki