

Submitter: Linda Pauly

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

Esteemed House Committee,

I write in support of the Oregon Flora program and funding.

The Flora database that has been compiled and is being compiled is the authority for identifying plant species in our state. No other sources of information provide current, up to date description of plants found in Oregon's lands, thus the Flora work is vital to our present and future economy and our ability to stay abreast of changes to our lands.

Oregon's plant communities are essential to all life in our state! Given the diverse types of Oregon's landscapes from east to west and south to north, our plant resources are truly the basis of human life and it is our responsibility to steward these rich resources. Without an active, current set of data about our vegetation we would be entering our future with blinders on.

I personally know several botanist researchers from the Lane County area who have contributed to the Flora already. They are among the most selfless, dedicated professionals and have done exemplary work.

Imagine driving across or flying over Oregon and not knowing what's growing! Without the continued study and documentation of our dynamic plant communities we truly would be flying blind into our future.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Pauly

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