Submitter: Heather Stout

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural

Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB3173

Dear Committee members,

I am a retired botanist/wetland scientist living in Bend, Oregon. I have been familiar with the need for an Oregon Flora Project since I worked in the Herbarium at Oregon State University when I was an undergraduate (1970s). It was obvious then, as it still is, that Oregon with its diverse flora, is not presently covered by any one Flora. Because there are so many ecoregions in the state, it was often necessary to consult 3 or 4 different floras in order to identify plants from around the state. Several of these are very dated. The Oregon Flora Project has to date done exemplary work on bringing Oregon information into one Flora. This helps enormously with work related identification issues. I encourage you to approve the budget to continue this work as it is important to Natural Resource management issues. Thank you for your attention to this request.

**Heather Stout**