

Submitter: Beth de la Fuente

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

Dear Committee Members,

Sitting down to write this testimony inspired me to pull out my copy of volume 2 of "The Flora of Oregon," and to revisit some of the information about gardening with native plants. I was struck again by how much useful and detailed information is available there, even which plants and insects need each other, especially pollinators in both juvenile and adult forms. I can use this information in my back yard, and agriculturists can use it when they are planting crops or hedgerows. Both the printed books, and increasingly, the wonderful website, are amazingly easy to use for both weekend gardeners and professional botanists. I know of no other resource with this depth of knowledge about Oregon plants. When I look at the scholarship and dedication of the handful of people who have produced this incredible treasure-trove, I cannot believe that they have had to rely on donations and grants for 30 years. It is high time for them to be established and funded for what they are: a valuable resource for everyone in the state of Oregon. Please pass this bill. Thank you.