

Feb. 4, 2025

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water
RE: HB3173

Dear Oregon Legislators,

I am writing to request your support of HB3173 that establishes and funds the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University. This measure will complement the abundant resources available for cultivated plants with critical information on native plants that support Oregon's healthy ecosystems. The OregonFlora Program will also support existing and nascent economic opportunities in native plant studies, habitat restoration, education, consulting, and landowner habitat management.

I have donated my own money and time over the past several years to OregonFlora. The program has survived in fits and starts without reaching its full potential. With a funded program at Oregon State, OregonFlora will finally be able to reach its full potential and provide benefits to all Oregonians, whether they actively participate in the native flora field or not.

Sincerely,
Scott Harris
24128 Cardwell Hill Dr
Philomath, Oregon