

Submitter: Marc Curtis

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

Supporting HB3173 is valuable to the people of Oregon, and to the country.

The Oregon Flora project provides an unmatched resource to many constituents in need of reliable botanical information. If you haven't visited their webpage (<https://oregonflora.org>) and used their valuable botanical resource tools, you should really check it out. The knowledge content of the flora project cannot be found elsewhere! Hard-working, botanists with unique skills and knowledge spend endless hours creating databases and online resources easily accessible to the many folks who rely on accurate information about plant species. Understanding what species exist, what they do and where, is a fundamental part of human history and survival on earth!

The Oregon Flora resources keep Oregonians up to date in plant taxonomic research as well as new invasive and rare species occurrences. Plants (such as in agriculture, natural areas, forage and nursery crops) are the cornerstone of Oregon's economy! HB3173 will help Oregon Flora continue to curate and share its data, which supports economic and ecological decisions made by land managers, businesses, educators and residents across Oregon.

As a parent of future Oregonians who want to maintain the beauty and diversity of Oregon's landscapes, I regularly use the Oregon Flora resource. This resource is vital in educating all Oregonians, young and old, about the plants that help keep us and the ecosystems we inhabit alive. I would find it much harder to do my job well, without these resources.

Thank you for thoroughly checking out these resources and voting yes on HB3173.

Sincerely,  
Marc James Curtis