

Submitter: Caroline L Skinner
On Behalf Of: HB 3173
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

I am writing to urge you to support the Oregon Flora project by voting YES on HB 3173. Oregon has 4,886 unique plant species that grow without cultivation. Of these, 70% are native species, and 120 are endemic and grow only in Oregon.

The oregonflora.org website offers sophisticated search and plant identification tools, 1.48 million mappable plant occurrence records, 63,000+ color field photos, and fact sheets for every plant taxon.

Oregon's economy depends upon its botanical resources. Healthy forests, productive rangelands, agricultural operations, outdoor recreation sites, and native plant horticultural businesses all need reliable data which OregonFlora provides.

The requested support will leverage 30 years of research, volunteer effort, and citizen science contributions to develop the OregonFlora resources. Sustainable support will help ensure it is maintained.