

Submitter: Heather Boright

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

Letter in Support of HB3173

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House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for HB3173 – Funding for OregonFlora

Dear Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB3173, which would establish OregonFlora in statute and provide sustainable funding for its critical work. As an educator focused on agroecology and ecological horticulture, I recognize the vital role OregonFlora plays in supporting practitioners, educators, and land managers who rely on accurate, up-to-date plant data to make informed decisions.

OregonFlora is an indispensable resource for those working to improve sustainable agriculture, conservation, and land stewardship. Its freely accessible database helps practitioners and educators:

- Identify native, rare, and invasive plant species essential for effective habitat restoration and biodiversity conservation.
- Make informed plant selection and management decisions that support sustainable agriculture and ecological landscaping.
- Access science-based data that aids in climate resilience, wildfire recovery, and ecosystem health.

Without reliable funding, maintaining this comprehensive and publicly available plant resource would be at risk. HB3173 ensures that OregonFlora can continue to provide the data necessary for those working to sustain Oregon's ecosystems and agricultural landscapes.

I urge you to support HB3173 and help secure the future of this essential resource.  
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Heather Boright