

Submitter: Kimberly Brown
Committee: Senate Committee on Rules
Measure: SB 547

I support establishing April as Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month.

SB 547 would recognize the ecological, economic, and cultural value that native plants bring to this state. Native plants provide essential ecosystem services including habitat for wildlife, preserving biodiversity, reducing runoff and flooding, preventing soil erosion, and providing food and resources for humans.

Permanently designating April as Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month would help the public to learn about the benefits of native plants, promote the conservation, restoration, and appreciation of Oregon's native plants.

Governor Kotek signed a proclamation making April Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month for 2024 and for 2025. However, by passing SB 547 there would not be the need to make annual proclamation requests. Other states like California have already legislated a native plant month. By passing SB 547, you will be supporting a healthier, more sustainable Oregon. I urge you to pass SB 547 and make April Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month.