

Submitter: Caroline Skinner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB547

I strongly support making April Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month! I am a volunteer steward at a natural area called Nob Hill Nature Park in St Helens, OR. It's an oak woodland overlooking the Columbia River where we are supporting native plants and removing weeds. I'm an active participant in Backyard Habitat program. I'm also a fan of author Doug Tallamy. He says if you like birds, you need to provide them with insects for food, and native plants by far are the best for both birds and insects including pollinators because wildlife is adapted to getting needs met by native plants. For too long, ornament plants have been promoted and sold at big box stores. As climate change increases, and our ecosystem is under more stress, we must do all we can to protect the natural world. Awareness of native plants is an integral step on this path.