

Submitter: Maxine Cass
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB547

February 12, 2015

I am a Southern Oregon landowner in the Rogue Valley who appreciates the wealth of value of native wildflowers, bunch grasses, shrubs and tree species that are unique (endemics) in my region and the value all native species have for Oregonians. I have used many Jackson County native plant species to restore a mixed conifer forest on my own property.

SB 547 is a straightforward way for Oregonians, through you, our legislative representatives, to permanently enshrine the love and respect of citizens for native plants, by making the month of April Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month.

Please support these icons of strength and beauty that create a biodiverse, well-adapted habitat around them. Bolster the water conserving, healthy soil building, and erosion control that native plants support with their presence on the land and in the roots underneath. For many, native plants have cultural and spiritual value. As harbingers of a resilient future in the face of climate change, native plants are the best choice for all Oregonians.

I urge all members of the Committee to vote a resounding "Yes!"

Thank you for your consideration,

Maxine Cass

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