

Date: February 12, 2025

Re: Support for SB 547

Dear Senate Committee on Rules:

As a resident of Oregon since 2014 I urge you to pass the resolution to make the month of April **Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month**. While Governor Kotek signed a proclamation making April Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month for 2024, passing this resolution would establish April permanently as Native Plant Appreciation Month in Oregon.

One simple way to protect our air, water, and soil to maintain healthy ecosystems is to plant *many* more native plants that support pollinators and native wildlife. Given the importance of native plants, permanently designating April as Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month would encourage the public to learn about the benefits of native plants to pollinators and wildlife.

I, personally, have pledged to only plant native plants in my yard as I slowly replace those plants that were in my yard when I moved here.

There is a strong and growing movement across the United States recognizing the importance of native plants. In 2021, a resolution was passed in the U.S. Senate (S. Res. 109), designating April as **National Native Plant Month**. This resolution was renewed in 2023, and 2024. Following the lead of Ohio in making April Native Plant Month a law in 2019 and California, Colorado, New Jersey, and Mississippi in the subsequent years, it is my hope that Oregon will become another in the nation.

Sincerely,

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