

Submitter:	Lynda Boyer
On Behalf Of:	Native Plant Society
Committee:	House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB547

We are so fortunate to live in a state with an amazing diversity of natural habitats. Each one contains a flora unique to the climate and topography. From oceans, to forests, to high-deserts and all micro-habitats in-between, the diversity is staggering. As development, resource extraction, and climate change eat away at those habitats, we need strong advocacy for its protection from all Oregon voices not just botanical geeks like me who manage a Native Seed and Plant Program. Educating as many people as possible on the value of native plants in these habitats is essential for building that advocacy. SB 547A would provide a focus month that encourages education and advocacy from school and community groups with regards to Oregon's varied habitats and plant species and areas in need of conservation and restoration, planting natives in public spaces, and encouraging more involvement from the nursery industry to provide more native plants for gardens, public spaces, and restoration.