

Submitter: Diane Frank

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

I fully support this bill. Oregon has almost 5,000 unique plant species that grow without cultivation. About 70% are native species, and 120 are endemic and grow only in Oregon.

The oregonflora.org website offers sophisticated search and plant identification tools, 1.48 million mappable plant occurrence records, 63,000+ color field photos, and fact sheets for every plant taxon. Cataloging and protecting plant diversity grows more critical with every passing year, especially as climate changes impacts our native flora.

Oregon's economy depends upon healthy forests, productive rangelands, agricultural operations, outdoor recreation sites. Native plant horticultural businesses all need reliable data which OregonFlora provides.

The requested support will allow 30 years of research, volunteer effort, and citizen science contributions to develop the OregonFlora resources. Sustainable support will help ensure it is maintained.

Sincerely,

Diane Frank,  
Portland, Oregon