

WATER LEAGUE

*Water League engages the public
in water stewardship.*

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In Memoriam

John L. Gardiner

April 16, 2025

To: Joint Ways & Means Committee

Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair

Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair

Senator Fred Girod, Co-Vice-Chair

Representative David Gomberg, Co-Vice-Chair

Representative Greg Smith, Co-Vice-Chair

Committee Members

RE: Water League supports HB 5006, which funds the OregonFlora Program at Oregon State University.

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, Co-Vice-Chairs Girod, Gomberg, Smith and, committee members,

Water League engages the public in water stewardship because the waters of Oregon belong to all citizens, and they wish to hold water in trust. We recognize that land and water are one system that flora, fauna, and humans depend on.

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Water League enthusiastically supports HB 5006 to fund OregonFlora in statute.

OregonFlora is a wonderful service developed by Oregon State University in 1994. Some of our members are members of the Native Plant Society of Oregon and use OregonFlora. OregonFlora is an invaluable resource that becomes more valuable every year because knowledge of Oregon's ecosystems and

environmental impacts constantly changes.

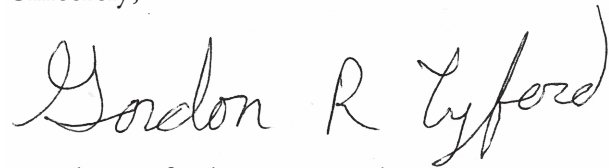
OregonFlora is an important source of botanical information used by state and federal agency employees, botanists, horticulturists, researchers, consultants, students, Oregon citizens of all ages, and tourists. It is a beautiful, easy, and fun web application to use.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture's Native Plant Conservation Program relies heavily on OregonFlora. The Native Plant Conservation Program oversees the conservation and management of Oregon's listed plant species, in part because the native plants of Oregon are our natural history. Currently, OregonFlora depends on grants and donations to fund its work. State funding would ensure that OregonFlora is sustainable.

OregonFlora is an evolving state of art web-based resource. California also has a similar web-based floral program that is evolving too.

This is especially important in southern Oregon along the state line where many native plants cross the border.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon R Lyford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "L".

Gordon Lyford CWRE #341

Vice-President