



## Botanical Sciences and Native Plant Materials, Research, Restoration, and Promotion Act

**Action Requested** Cosponsor H.R. 1054, the *Botanical Sciences and Native Plant Materials, Research, Restoration, and Promotion Act* that was introduced in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress by Reps. Mick Quigley (D-IL) and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

**Bill Overview** The Botanical Sciences and Native Plant Materials, Research, Restoration, and Promotion Act would increase our nation's botanical expertise and help protect native plant species.

The bill would do so by:

- Increasing federal botanical expertise by creating a botanical science research program in the Department of the Interior (DOI)
- Providing educational incentives and support to future botanical scientists to ensure continued federal expertise
- Helping to save endangered plants and prevent rare plant species from becoming endangered
- Promoting the use of native plant species in public land management

**Background** Botany is critical to scientific discovery, as well as ensuring the sustainable use and management of our natural resources. However, in the next decade the US is projected to lose nearly half of its botanical expertise, leading to direct and indirect costs in both dollars and biodiversity.

Native plants support local economies, and create the landscapes integral to American history and culture. Native plant materials are also used in food, medicines, dietary supplements, cosmetics, and other products. The responsible trade of native plants used for herbal products bring jobs and thousands, even millions, of dollars of revenue into rural communities. Further, the use of native plants on public lands has been shown to lower the cost of vegetation management by up to 30 percent.

**Summary** AHPA asks for your support for this bipartisan bill that would increase the botanical science capacity of the federal government and help ensure the preservation, conservation, and restoration of native plant species.

For more information please contact Amber Littlejohn at [alittlejohn@ahpa.org](mailto:alittlejohn@ahpa.org)

*About the American Herbal Products Association*

*The American Herbal Products Association (AHPA) is the national trade association and voice of the herbal products industry. AHPA is comprised of domestic and foreign companies doing business as growers, processors, manufacturers, and marketers of herbs and herbal products, including foods, dietary supplements, cosmetics and personal care products, and non-prescription drugs. Founded in 1982, AHPA's mission is to promote the responsible commerce of herbal products.*