

Please accept this email as my support for Senate Bill 5122 seeking regulating invasive bamboo here in Connecticut. As a landscape contractor in New Haven county I have encountered this invasive bamboo first hand. I along with my crews spent months working at a property in Woodbridge that has fallen victim of this invasive plant. We spent months digging up the bamboo in an attempt to remove it completely from the property. The extensive root system that this bamboo has causes significant damage throughout the property not limited to the area where it is planted. The rhizome (underground root) spread so rapidly it migrated under the backyard asphalt tennis court. This bamboo penetrated through 2" of asphalt along the edge of the court, before we were able to extract it before more serious damage occurred.

From this first hand experience, I can say there is no good to be had from this "plant". It needs to be regulated.

If I could be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Eric Orzel
Hilltop Turf & Landscapes, LLC
203-641-7222