



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Testimony presented to the Environment Committee of

The Connecticut General Assembly

By the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

March 16, 2012

H.B. 5413 AN ACT CONCERNING INVASIVE PLANTS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture supports H.B. 5413 and continuing an invasive plants coordinator to assist the Invasive Plants Council in developing early detection and rapid response plans, educating the public regarding invasive plant species and training and coordinating volunteers to assist with invasive plant control projects.

Working through the Council has proven to be very effective in gathering appropriate experts and stakeholders to make recommendations based on the best available science. Having an Invasive Plants Coordinator has been extremely successful in rallying concerned citizens across Connecticut to help fight threats to our farms, forests, lakes and streams. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture supports the work and continued staffing of the Invasive Plants Council proposed in H.B. 5413.

Thank you for consideration of the views of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.