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RUNNING BAMBOO **(Phyllostachys aureosulcata)**

The reason I am here today is to extend my deep appreciation and thanks for providing me the opportunity to participate and allowing me to voice my concerns regarding the plant, Running Bamboo (*Phyllostachys aureosulcata*).

Thank you for proposing S.B. 72, and while I do support the intent, I think the bill (S.B. 72) should be strengthened by:

Declaring running bamboo a nuisance with a minimum 100 foot bamboo/rhizome free buffer zone, in order to more properly contain it.

We all have and continue to be aware of the harmful effects that invasive plants have upon our natural ecosystems. Now, in recent times we are witnessing the devastating effects of the extremely troublesome Running Bamboo, a plant that New York State calls invasive, but should be classified as a nuisance in Connecticut. Not only is it an ecological threat, it is damaging and very difficult and costly to remove. The damage it causes to foundations of homes, drains and sewer systems, asphalt driveways, and the like, place an undue and unfair burden upon property owners.

Thank you for listening

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