Environment Committee LOB
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Feb. 16, 2014

S.B. 72 AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY
FOR THE GROWING OF RUNNING BAMBOO

Dear Environment Committee:

We support the intent of this bill but would like to see the following included:

Declare running a nuisance with a 40 foot setback on existing bamboo. This is a 'no bamboo buffer zone where bamboo cannot exist' to stop the continual spread of the plant including property damages.

We live on 23 Spruce Lane in Oakdale, CT 06370 and my neighbor planted running bamboo (*Phyllostachys bissetii*) along his and our property line seven years ago. It has grown tremendously onto our land and the bamboo at this present time is 20 feet from our house.

The bamboo is 10 feet from our septic system. On our property, the length of the bamboo is 60 feet and the width is 25 feet. The overall total length of the bamboo along both property lines is a massive 100 feet. The overall height along both property lines is 35 feet. The bamboo is about 10 feet from our neighbor's house and it is growing above the roofline of his house. Every year, beginning in the spring, this plant shoots spikes growing 1 to 2 feet in height per day in our yard. We use a riding lawn mower to cut the bamboo and rhizomes. We have broken many lawn mower blades due to this problem. Every summer our neighbor uses a chainsaw and cuts the bamboo on his side of his property only. There are many occasions during the year where these very tall bamboos fall into our yard and we have to clean-up our neighbor's mess. We are worried that due to this invasive plant and its rhizomes growing underground the plant will damage our septic system.

Images of continual invasion and damage:
http://neme-s.org/Bamboo/bamboo_photos_May_10_2013.htm

http://neme-s.org/Bamboo/bamboo_photos_May_15_2013.htm

http://neme-s.org/Bamboo/bamboo_photos_May_16_2013.htm

Thank you for your assistance in this very important issue.

Regards,
Esmeraldo Ramos and Rosita Ramos
23 Spruce Lane
Oakdale, CT 06370