

February 15, 2014

Testimony for S.B. 72: An Act Concerning Liability for the Growing of Running Bamboo

Dear Environment Committee:

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

Declare running bamboo a nuisance with a 40 ft. setback on existing bamboo (no bamboo buffer zone- where bamboo cannot exist including rhizomes).

My bamboo nightmare is such that I can no longer enjoy my backyard because it virtually does not exist anymore due to the damage that the adjacent bamboo which grows and multiplies into my yard. Grass no longer grows because of all of the chemicals that I have tried on the bamboo rhizomes trying to get them eliminated but to no avail. Forget the gardens!! And flowers and roses!! No sitting outside in the summer to enjoy a warm evening outdoors.

These rhizomes are indestructible. They will grow season after season even if you dig them up if you leave the tiniest piece behind, because they grow like grasses in a basket weave pattern and shallow form, it is nearly impossible to dig every piece. So the entire yard has to be dug up down to 3 feet. Then a plastic layer has to be installed and 3 feet of new soil has to be filled in. They are extremely invasive year after year growing stronger and multiplying and multiplying!!!.

The rhizomes grow and destroy septic tanks, water pipes, driveways, tennis courts, to name a few... they will even grow in between siding.

It is a complete nightmare!!! You really have to live it or see it to believe it. I invite you to do so. There is plenty abounding.

I would like to see included in the bill declare Running Bamboo a Nuisance with a 40 foot set back on existing bamboo - a no bamboo buffer zone to stop the spread and damages.

Thank you!!

Respectfully,

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