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

Dear Environment Committee,

I support the intent of the bill but would like the bill to include:
Declare running bamboo a nuisance with a 40 foot setback on existing bamboo.
(a no bamboo buffer zone where bamboo cannot exist - including rhizomes).

Over five years ago my neighbor planted *Phyllostachys aureosulcata* - yellow groove bamboo on my property border. Innocent enough, the bamboo started to grow and spread like wildfire through my vegetable garden, which is a key component to my success as a caterer. Since I was not aware of the invasiveness of the plant, nor did I realize that:

YOU CANNOT KILL IT, STOP IT OR AMEND ITS GROWTH UNLESS YOU BACKHOE THE WHOLE PLANT, BURN IT AND DISPOSE OF PROPERLY.

My neighbor tells me that “the spread” of his bamboo into my property is MY PROBLEM. And he has NO intention of curbing, eliminating or disposing of it anytime soon. The bamboo is now surfacing all across my lawn and will soon be consuming the entire front lawn, my huge vegetable garden and area equivalent to a half an acre of my property.

The LOSS of use of my once-abundant and professionally created vegetable garden alone means that I have had to buy fresh produce on a daily basis for my catering clients. The law does nothing to protect those who are victimized by its growth, its destruction and its ongoing propagation. In my case, the inability to grow fresh produce. I urge you and the legislature to Declare running bamboo a nuisance with a 40 foot setback (buffer zone) on existing bamboo to protect law abiding homeowners from invasions of bamboo.

Sincerely,
Priscilla S. Weadon