

Nancy Mahon
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S.B. 72

February 15, 2014

Dear Senator Edward Meyer, Co-Chairman of the Environment
Committee and Fellow Committee Members,

I am writing to you because I cannot be there in person to voice my thoughts and feelings. It is my intent to let this letter serve as my testimony regarding Senate Bill SB - 72. I am strongly in favor of this bill declaring that Running Bamboo, of the genus *Phyllostachys*, is a nuisance. An Act Concerning Liability for the Growing of Running Bamboo, genus of Phyllostachys, Senate Bill SB - 72, should include mandating ^(at least) a 40 foot set back from any property line. This would create a No Bamboo Buffer Zone, where Running Bamboo cannot exist. This new law MUST address the problem of EXISTING Running Bamboo in this manner to be effective.

I am sure you are aware of the tremendous damage, this almost in- destructible plant can do. I have witnessed the infestation of homes, a museum, side-walks and roadways. But what goes on underground is the most devastating of all...as it is attacking infrastructure. Septic tanks, wells, water pipes and gas lines...all are at serious risk. The frightening part is, this cannot be seen, until it is too late.

Just think of the good, a new law, with the inclusions stated above, would do. People who want to keep Running Bamboo on their land would have the responsibility of containing it, neighboring properties and right-of-ways would not be so vulnerable to infestation and the State of Connecticut would have some control over this serious threat.

I hope you will pass this bill with these provisions. It is sorely needed. Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Mahon