

John Kowalsky
130 Armstrong Rd, Shelton, CT 06484

Dear Environment Committee:

Jan. 25, 2015

**H.B. 6032 AN ACT CLARIFYING PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL STATUTES
CONCERNING THE USE OF BARRIER SYSTEMS FOR CERTAIN PLANTINGS**

I support the intent of this bill, but ask that it include three items:

1) Clear wording that bamboo shall not be maintained or allowed to EXIST within the 40 foot buffer zone regardless of when the bamboo was planted

2) Enforcement narrowed to Zoning Officers with fines payable to the municipality

3) ADD that the Court can also enforce the 40 foot buffer zone with attorney fees, costs and disbursements paid to the prevailing party. Costs should include disbursements for expert witnesses required for such cases, in addition to court costs.

As written H.B. 6032 is **not** clear, it still has unclear wording showing - not allow "to be planted", which should be not allow "to maintain or exist" within the 40 foot buffer zone.

I fear my property will soon be invaded by yellow groove bamboo, as my neighbor has since allowed it to continue to invade underground further since 2014. In May the bamboo spikes were shooting everywhere along the road and curb.

My neighbor has a very large stand of yellow groove bamboo which has fully escaped under his fence out to the roadside and to the curb and surrounding areas. It will soon invade my side property reaching my driveway first unless H.B.6032 includes clear wording and is strengthened to allow enforcement of the 40 foot buffer zone where bamboo growth cannot exist. This is a very large mature stand of yellow groove bamboo with very thick and destructive rhizomes

underground. I will not be able to deal with the continual damages to my property in my retirement. The damage this will cause to my property in my retirement is serious. I will not be able to sell my property.

Even if this were just happening to “one person” in Connecticut, it still would be wrong. I am worried as I am getting older and letting it go is not the way to go!

Yellow groove bamboo invades stronger each year. The damages are continual.

Sincerely,

John Kowalsky