

Testimony S.B. 79, AN ACT CLARIFYING PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL STATUTES REGARDING THE USE OF PROPERLY INSTALLED AND CONSTRUCTED BARRIER SYSTEMS FOR CERTAIN PLANTINGS.

Senator Kennedy, Representative Albis and members of the Environment Committee,

My name is John Nassif and I am here today on behalf of Summer Hill Nursery in Madison, CT. At Summer Hill we are currently growing about 1000 different varieties of plants including 11 varieties of Phyllostachys – Running Bamboo. We feel that properly used, it is a valued landscape plant. It makes a nice screen that is not eaten by deer.

I believe that the requested revision to the current legislation of Phyllostachys running bamboo will not solve the problem, only create complications. The use of a properly installed and constructed barrier system does, in my opinion, solve any concerns of Phyllostachys running bamboo. Simply, by containing it to a given area.

Whether Phyllostachys running bamboo is planted 20 feet or 50 feet from a property line, without proper maintenance, it will spread. Containment being containers or a barrier system, solves this problem.

I would like to see no change to the current law or a new comprehensive bill written covering all aspects of planting Phyllostachys.

John Nassif