

Maureen Ayotte and Kenneth Fisher  
6 Braeburn Rd., Bristol, CT

Dear Environment Committee Members,

2/18/2016

**I am writing in support of SB 79, and urge the committee to include the following two items:**

add - 3 words or to grow to subsection (c) - these 3 words clarify the 40 foot buffer zone as intended.

add - subsection (g) to authorize an individual to seek private enforcement of the buffer zone in court and authorize attorney fees.

Subsection (g) - a private right of action may be maintained by an adjoining property owner to enforce the provisions of subsection (c) of this statute. The plaintiff is entitled to attorneys' fees, and costs and disbursements if he/she is the prevailing party.

**We need these 2 items included in the bill to finally have a clear enforceable law as intended.**

We have resided at 16 Braeburn Road in Bristol since 1988, and have spent our life creating a beautiful extensive manicured gardens. I am now approaching retirement and realize that our life long labor of love, our gardens will soon be invaded and destroyed by mature yellow groove invasive bamboo.

The yellow groove bamboo is invading extensively at the property next door, causing damage and is freely invading in a direct path to my property and gardens. I cannot imagine what our quality of life will be in our retirement if SB 79 does not pass, so we can begin to stop this before it gets here. It has been extremely difficult to watch this invade all through the past year of 2015, not being able to do anything to save our property. I am attaching 8 images of the invasion here in Bristol, that will become a serious issue to all adjoining property owners if something is not done soon. SB 79 will give recourse to stop this nightmare before it hits my property.

*Phyllostachys aureosulcata* – yellow groove bamboo is giant temperate timber “running bamboo” native to China, listed as an invasive species in NY and recently banned from sale in NY. This is not a tall hedge!

Respectfully submitted,  
Maureen Ayotte and Kenneth Fisher





