

Patricia and Steven Fetyko  
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Testimony S.B. 79

Dear Environment Committee.

I am writing to support the intent of SB 79, but ask for the following two items to be included to clarify and enable enforcement of the 40 foot buffer zone as intended in the statute.

**1) add 3 words or to grow these 3 words clarify the 40 foot buffer zone**

**2) add subsection (g) to the various subsections - authorizing an individual to seek private enforcement of the buffer zone themselves in court and authorize attorney fees.**

Please add 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 attorney fees and costs if he/she is the prevailing party.

We are victims of a neighbor's running bamboo, which is invading our property. It is currently spreading into our yard, and will be invading a wetland. We have several large canes and many spikes appearing in our yard. It is beginning to invade our yard, something has to be done about it, or else our property will be destroyed.

We need the law to be clear and enforceable. It is unfair for the innocent parties who have been invaded by running bamboo be further punished with the "trauma and expenses" that are brought upon them by running bamboo.

Running bamboo grows quickly 1-2 feet per day, and can reach 30-45 feet tall. Our canes are now 15 to 20 feet tall. The roots called "rhizomes" spread rapidly underground 20 feet per year around each cane, and are approx. 24 to 30 inches deep.

In our situation: If something is not done soon, our property will be in serious trouble as the invasion is spreading rapidly underground.

(See attached photos - running bamboo invading our property in Oxford, CT)

Regards,  
Patricia and Steven Fetyko







*Phyllostachys bissetii* - infestation Oxford, CT

Images by Caryn Rickel EDDMapS no. 3175194