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As a member of the Connecticut Invasive Plants Council and co-legislative chairs of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association, we are writing this letter to voice our support for SB No. 339-An Act Extending the Prohibition on Municipal Ordinances Concerning Invasive Plants.

We have several concerns with the sunset of this municipal preemption clause. They are as follows:

- Individual municipalities do not necessarily have adequate expertise in these subjects like state departments and private industry professionals as are on the Invasive Plants Council. The Invasive Plant Council was mandated by Sec. 22a-381 of the general statutes. One of its primary purposes is to serve as the group that offers recommendations to standing committees of the General Assembly on the consideration and management of invasive species.
- Confusion about compliance among stakeholders who perform business in many towns and cities in the state.
- Appropriate vetting of plant species through the expertise and observation of the council so there is a fair and scientifically drawn consensus of any plant deemed invasive.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We have no doubt that you have many monumental tasks ahead of you and recognize that resolving state budget issues has essentially moved you from one session into another. We appreciate all you do to make the state of Connecticut a better place for all businesses and people.

Regards,

Darryl Newman

Landscape/Nursery Industry Representative, Connecticut Invasive Plants Council  
Co-Legislative Chair-Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association

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