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Attn: Representative Bennett, Chair House Committee on
Environment and Natural Resources and Committee Members

Testimony in Support of H 6281

An Act Relating to Fish and Wildlife- General Provisions
Before the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rhode Island Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental grassroots organization of farm families united for the purpose of enhancing and strengthening the lives of rural Americans, and to build strong, prosperous agricultural communities. Today our over 1200 members are not only large farmers and small farmers, but also includes those engaged in agricultural industries, teachers of agriculture and consumers.

Rhode Island Farm Bureau is in support of **H 6281**: Prohibition on importation and possession of non-native (exotic) invasive plants. We would like to request that there be an advisory committee of stakeholders to submit recommendations to the director regarding non-native and invasive plants. We are concerned that the term non-native plants may be extended to include alfalfa, Sudan grass and other non-native plants which are commonly propagated in Rhode Island.

We ask that you vote in support of **H 6281** giving consideration to this request.

Henry B. Wright III
President, RI Farm Bureau