

## Lou Mansolillo

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**From:** Bill Kirkpatrick <bkirk192@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026 3:27 PM  
**To:** House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Boylan, Jennifer  
**Subject:** Support for H7071

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Chair Bennett and honorable members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Bill Kirkpatrick and I live in Barrington. I am writing to urge you to support H7071 (Boylan) which would prohibit the importation, transportation, disbursement, distribution, sale, or purchase of any species of non native (exotic) plants. I have been a volunteer for the Barrington Land Conservation Trust for over 9 years, and am a steward for one of our properties. One of my responsibilities as steward is to be aware of, monitor and report on invasive species that are present on that property. We regularly discuss the presence of invasive species on our properties and have discussed strategies to address this. Those of us volunteering for the land trust are of course aware and mindful of the significant negative impact of invasive plants.

Rhode Island is one of only 5 states without a prohibited plant sale list, a list that restricts the sale and distribution of invasive plants and the only state in New England without one. Invasive plants are a specific category of non-native plant that have been shown to wreak havoc on local ecosystems by spreading exponentially and crowding out native plant species. The bill would prohibit the sale of these plant species at nurseries, garden centers and anywhere plants are sold in the state. Please pass this bill out of committee and to the House floor with a recommendation for passage.

Sincerely,

Bill Kirkpatrick  
2 Congress Rd.  
Barrington

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Bill