



Over 100 Years of Education, Conservation & Advocacy

Audubon Society of Rhode Island

May 26, 2021

Representative David Bennett
Chair, House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02908

Re: Audubon Society of Rhode Island Supports H6281, Invasive Plants

Dear Chairman Bennett and members of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

The Audubon Society of Rhode Island and our 17,000 members thank Representative Serpa for sponsoring this important legislation. We urge you to pass this bill to the floor for a vote.

Audubon manages almost 10,000 acres of property, with much of the property available for hiking, birding and enjoying nature. Our conservation staff work tirelessly to keep our properties safe for public enjoyment and to ensure that natural habitats are maintained. Invasive plant control is one of the never-ending tasks for all our protected land.

This bill will not eliminate invasive plants, but it will eliminate invasive plants from nurseries where people purchase the plants and then unintentionally introduce invasive plants into their home landscapes. When the bill is fully implemented, it will also raise public awareness of invasive plants, an important step in management.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Meg Kerr
Senior Director of Policy