

## Support for S2352

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Chair and Honorable Members of the Senate Environment and Agriculture Committee:

I am writing in support of The RI Invasives Plant Management Bill, S2352 (McKenney), which would prohibit the importation, transportation, disbursement, distribution, sale or purchase of any species of non-native (exotic) invasive plants.

Rhode Island is one of only four 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 plants that have been shown to wreak havoc on local ecosystems by spreading exponentially and crowding out native plants species. This bill would prohibit the sale of these plant species at nurseries, garden centers and anywhere plants are sold in the state. Research has shown that 60% of invasive plants are introduced through their intentional sale and planting (Beury et al., 2021).

I urge you to support S2352 by passing this bill out of Committee and to the Senate floor with a recommendation for passage.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol A. Solimene  
Barrington, RI

EM, Beury, Patrick M, and Bradley BA. "Invaders for sale: the ongoing spread of invasive species by the plant trade industry." 2021.

# ***BE CAREFUL***

***NOT TO  
DAMAGE  
STYROFOAM***

*Carol A. Solimene, CYT  
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