
Support for S2352

From Joannie Hinman <joanniehinman@gmail.com>

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To Slegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>

Cc Sen. Valverde, Bridget G. <sen-valverde@rilegislature.gov>; Rep. Caldwell, Justine A. <rep-caldwell@rilegislature.gov>

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I am writing in support of S2352 which prohibits the importation, transportation, disbursement, distribution, sale, purchase, or possession of any species of non-native (exotic) invasive plants. This measure (or similar) has been adopted successfully by a majority of the United States. Rhode Island stands alone as the only New England state to NOT prohibit the sale of invasive plants. These bans will have no impact on the existing plantings in homeowner's yards, but will keep people from additional harmful plantings. Let's get with it here.

I live in East Greenwich, and have unknowingly planted invasive shrubs and plants in my yard. Now that I am a little more educated, I'm replacing those selections. I installed a burning bush in my front yard years ago, which is a terribly invasive shrub. Last year I dug it out with great effort. I bought that invasive locally! Had it not been offered I would have easily selected a native or at least a non-invasive shrub - there are plenty from which to choose.

I have my work cut out for me removing bittersweet, invasive honeysuckle, and multi-flower rose from my property. Let's not continue to make things worse in our eco-system by allowing big box stores and local nurseries to continue the sale of invasive plants and shrubs.

Please pass this bill out of committee and to the Senate floor with a recommendation for passage.

Sincerely,
Joan Hinman
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East Greenwich, RI