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## Support for S2352 bill

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**From** Lindsay Neagle <lindsayneagle@yahoo.com>  
**Date** Tue 4/7/2026 9:24 AM  
**To** Slegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>  
**Cc** Sen. Vargas, Lammis J. <sen-vargas@rilegislature.gov>

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Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Environment and Agriculture Committee,

My name is Lindsay Neagle; I live at 1180 Narragansett Blvd, Apt G2 in Cranston. I am a Master Gardener and a horticulture volunteer at Roger Williams Park and Pawtuxet Park. At both parks I see how invasive species have taken over our green spaces. I spend a lot of time trying to get rid of invasive species in the parks. One of my volunteer activities at Roger Williams Park (RWP) Botanical Center is to help tend their three goats. The goats at the Botanical Center have a job in the Park which is to control the invasive species. As volunteers, we lead the goats to areas which are overrun with invasive species. Much as I enjoy tending the goats, it would be great if they were no longer needed in RWP. Senate bill S2352 which prohibits the sale of invasive plant species in Rhode Island would help to bring that about.

I am urging you to vote to vote in favor of the bill S2352. Throughout the world and specifically in Rhode Island there is a marked decrease in the populations of birds and insects. There are many examples of how these populations are declining in Rhode Island. The most recent State of the Birds report by the Audubon Society of RI shows a 1/3 decline in the breeding populations of birds at the Audubon sanctuaries. Historically there were 11 species of bumble bees in RI; now there are only 6. There are many reasons for these declines, but a significant cause is the growing presence of invasive species in our state. Invasive species crowd out native species of plants. Native species provide food for our birds and insects. Without food the birds and insects die. Rhode Island is one of only four states in the nation that do not prohibit the sale of invasive species and the only state in New England that does not. This bill would not have an adverse affect on local nurseries. It does not ban the sale of non-native plants; it only prohibits the sale of invasive non-native species. There are many native species and non-invasive, non-native species that the nurseries could sell instead of the invasive species.

Please vote in favor of this bill.

Thank you.

Lindsay Neagle