



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: SB 105		DATE: 4/14/2025
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN DAVIDSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bkdavids65@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2025 5:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a retired public servant who had the responsibility of managing the control and eradication of invasive species on public lands, the cost to tax payers would be greatly reduced if some invasive plants were not sold in nurseries across the state. This is especially true of callery pear, Bradford pear trees. I see the state, local governments and private landowners pressing thousands of dollars every year on eradicating these species off their land that they did not plant.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-694-5787	
REPRESENTING: NATURE CONSERVANCY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 2011 WAYNE AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMES LOW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jimilow@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/13/2025 9:00 AM

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Please see that SH 105 receives your active support and final approval. We need to do a better job of protecting our agriculture sector and natural resources from invasive species.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kortniehuddleston@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 10:31 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LEANNE TIPPETT MOSBY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ljtmosby@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 10:58 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I strongly support this legislation. My husband and I own almost 40 acres where we have worked tirelessly to remove invasive plants. We have also worked with local nonprofits to remove these plants from public lands. It is amazing to see the difference when areas have been cleaned out and native plant populations have a chance to regenerate. This is common sense legislation to cease the sale of some of the most aggressive and harmful invasive species, and will go a long way in helping to reduce their spread in our state.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-581-0561	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE SUITE 100			
CITY: UNIVERSITY CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 1:06 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. We would like to express our support for the passage of Senate Bill No. 105 concerning the sale and distribution of certain invasive species. Invasive species pose a profound threat to the delicate balance of our environment. These non-native organisms have the capacity to outcompete, overwhelm, and disrupt the native flora and fauna that have evolved over centuries. The consequences of their infiltration ripple through ecosystems, setting off a domino effect that can be catastrophic. One only needs to drive I-70 across Missouri in the spring to witness this effect. The white blooms of the Callery pear create a consistent haze across the landscape, clearly competing with native tree species. One of the primary dangers lies in the ecological disruption caused by invasive species. They often outcompete native species for resources, such as food, water, and habitat, leading to a decline in biodiversity. As native species struggle to survive, entire ecosystems face destabilization, making them more susceptible to diseases and other external pressures. SB 105 thoughtfully and respectfully addresses this serious problem. By banning the sale and distribution of the top five invasive species at the point of sale, this bill would not only stop the continued proliferation of these problem plants, it would also draw attention to the issues surrounding invasive species to the public at large. The Missouri Coalition for the Environment and its state wide membership strongly support the passage of SB 105. It's an important first step in the long road back to a healthy and balanced ecosystem.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 10:30 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL OHLENDORF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pohlendorf@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/12/2025 11:00 AM
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This bill, SB 105 is a good start in curbing invasive species in our state. We just can't let these organisms take over and invade landscapes.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATTLEMAN'S ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TYLER SCHWARTZE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2322	
REPRESENTING: CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 728 W. MAIN ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TYLER WILSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: VALARIE KURRE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: vjrepp@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2025 1:58 PM

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As a homeowner and someone who works in conservation, invasive species pose a significant threat to our environment. They outcompete native plants, reducing valuable habitat and food sources for Missouri wildlife and important and imperiled pollinators, such as the Monarch Butterfly. Invasive species also pose a threat to the many industries based here in the Ozarks. The timber industry is greatly affected by invasive plants, which decrease the recruitment of new valuable trees, such as oak, and degrade the forests that this industry relies on. The Ozarks also heavily depend on ecotourism. Hunting, floating, hiking, and camping are all significant sources of income for businesses here and can all be affected by invasive plants. Invasives degrade the critical ecosystems in this area, reducing deer and turkey populations and affecting water quality. The cattle industry, which is also a large contributor to the economy in the Ozarks, relies on keeping grazing systems intact and free of invasive plants that can ultimately reduce the carrying capacity of fields and the health of the cattle. Ensuring these invasive plants cannot be sold in nurseries will help decrease the number of invasive plants that can spread to our forests, glades, and waterways. While it may not completely solve the problem of invasive plants, it will definitely reduce their establishment in our ecosystems.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VIRGINIA (GINNY) WALLACE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Ginny.k.wallace@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 10:55 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 105. I moved to Missouri in 1979, and in the 46 years I have lived here, I have witnessed the relentless encroachment of invasive plants such as Japanese Honeysuckle taking over forest understory, sericea lespedeza crowding out native plants in prairies, and callery pear dominating fields far from any town. These invasive species lack the natural controls – diseases and pests – to keep them in check. They not only do not provide any value to wildlife, they transform complex natural communities into monocultures, crowding out the very native plants that pollinators, birds, and other wildlife depend on for food. Some, like perilla mint, are toxic to livestock. And they are exceedingly costly to control. These costs are too high to justify their continued sale. Which would you rather see? An understory of resplendent with flowering dogwood, our state tree, or a sea of green that is impossible to walk through. I applaud the Senator for introducing this important legislation and support its passage.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ZACH MORRIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2025 10:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am Opposed to this Bill. This Legislation limits Private Property Owner Rights and the ability of a Land-Owner to Plant responsible species of their choosing on their own property. I have Opposed the House Version of this Bill being Sponsored by Representative Bruce Sassmann.