

Originating Committee: Public/Private Lands

Author: John Hickey

Intended Recipients: Missouri General Assembly, Missouri Invasive Plant Council

Cease the Sale of Select Non-Native Invasive Plants in the State of Missouri

WHEREAS, non-native invasive plants threaten aspects of Missouri’s economy, including horticulture, agricultural production, private land management goals, native plant health, native ecosystems, and the outdoor recreation industry; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ Division of State Parks, and other city, county, state, federal, and NGO land managers have had to develop programs to remove invasives such as bush honeysuckle and Callery pear at great cost in time and public resources; and

WHEREAS, many of these problematic plants are imported, bred, distributed, and promoted for sale in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, legislation that would cease the sale of specific non-native invasive plants would benefit Missouri’s public and private landowners, farmers, and native plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, several states have recently passed this sort of “cease the sale” legislation, including Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Invasive Plant Council has reached out to many businesses and organizations for input and advice on “cease the sale” legislation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled in Columbia, Missouri, this 1st day of December, 2023, urges the Missouri General Assembly to work with the Missouri Invasive Plant Council and other interested parties to formulate and enact legislation to cease the sale of select non-native invasive plants in the State of Missouri.

Searchable Keywords: invasive, plants, horticulture, agriculture, native, honeysuckle, non-native, sale, import, pear, legislation

Expires: December 1, 2028