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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2154**

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 11, 2017

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-902 of the Code of Virginia, relating to designation of golden bamboo as a noxious weed.*

Patrons—Rasoul and Rush

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 15.2-902 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 15.2-902. Authority of locality to control certain noxious weeds.**

A. Any locality may by ordinance prevent, control, and abate the growth, importation, spread, and contamination of uninfested lands by the species of grass *Sorghum halepense*, commonly known as Johnson grass; *the species of grass Phyllostachys aurea, commonly known as golden bamboo*; or by the woody shrub ~~rosa~~ *Rosa multiflora*, commonly known as multiflora rose.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is authorized to provide financial and technical assistance to, and enter into agreements with, any locality ~~which~~ *that* adopts an ordinance for the control of Johnson grass, *golden bamboo*, or multiflora rose.

B. Any locality may by ordinance control the growth of (i) musk thistle, the weed designated as *Carduus nutans* L., a biennial weed of the ~~Compositae~~ *Asteraceae* family, or (ii) curled thistle, the weed designated as *Carduus acanthoides* L., an annual and biennial weed of the ~~Compositae~~ *Asteraceae* family. Any such musk thistle or curled thistle growing in the locality may be declared a public nuisance and noxious weed, harmful to plant and grass growth and to pastures, and may be destroyed.

INTRODUCED

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