WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FILED Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee

1985 JAN 15 PH 4: 49 OFFICE OF AFOT VINGRUA SECRETARY OF STATE



NOTICE OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY LEGISLATIVE RULE-MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE

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Pursuant to Code 29A-3-11(c), this notice has been filed in the state register and with the agency proposing the rule.

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee



The Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee, upon receipt of oral comments at the November 13 and December 4, 1984, meetings, recommends to the Legislature withdrawal of the Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weed Rules. This is based on testimony by the Department of Natural Resources and various wildlife interest groups in opposition to including Kanawha County on the list of counties in which Autumn Olive is declared a noxious weed. The Department of Natural Resources and various wildlife interest groups cite the valuable use of Autumn Olive as both a wildlife food source and its use in the reclamation of strip mined land in Kanawha County. The Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee agrees with this continuing need and, therefore, recommends that this Rule be withdrawn.

Very truly yours,

Robert R. Nelson, Cochairman State Senate

Robert C. Chambers, Cochairman House of Delegates

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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee



The purpose of the proposed amendment to the <u>Noxious Weed Rules</u> of the Department of Agriculture is to include Kanawha County on the list of counties in which Autumn Olive is declared a noxious weed.

Following testomny before the Legislative Rule Making Review Committee by the Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Reclaimation Divisions and various hunting associations it pointed out that Autumn Olive is an important wildlife food source and is highly useful in the reclaimation of strip mined land.

The Legislative Rule Making Review Committee therefore recommends to the Legislature that the Department of Agriculture withdraw the proposed amendment to the Noxious Weed Rules, Chapter 19-12D, Series XIV.

Robert R. Nelson, Co-Chairman-Senate

Robert Chambers, Co-Chairman-House

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE ANALYSIS

AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RULE: NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT RULES. CHAPTER 19-12D, SERIES XIV, (1984)

ABSTRACT

These are amendemnts to an existing rule designating plants as noxous weeds throughout the State or in selected counties and permitting control measures to be utilized. The proposed amendment is to include the Autumn Olive as a noxious weed in Kanawha County. It is already designated as such in several counties. The proposal is a result of petitions from affected farmers in Kanawha County.

AUTHORITY

Code 19-12D-4: Noxious Weed Act.

- (a) The commissioner shall administer and enforce the provisions of this article and shall have authority to issue regulations after a public hearing following due notice to all interested persons in conformance with the provisions of the state administrative procedures set forth in chapter twentynine-a of this Code.
- (b) In issuing such regulations, the commissioner shall give consideration to pertinent research findings and recommendations of other agencies of the State, the federal government, and other reliable sources.

PERTINENT DATES

Filed for public hearing - June 7, 1984
Date of public hearing - July 11, 1984
Filed following public hearing - September 10, 1984
Filed LRMRC - September 30, 1984

ANALYSIS

Following of a petition from 201 Kanawha County rural property owners advocating noxious weed status for Autumn Olive in Kanawha County-the Department of Agriculture held a public hearing on the issue.

The two sides on this issue are:

- A. For declaring Autumn Olive a noxious weed in Kanawha:
 - 1. The petitioners.
 - 2. Capital Soil Conservation District.
- B. Against declaring Autumn Olive a noxious weed in Kanawha:
 - 1. Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, Reclamation Division and Forestry Division.
 - National and State Wild Turkey Federation and other persons who submitted a petition in response to proposal - 220 signatures.

Issues

1. Those for declaring Autumn Olive a noxious weed in Kanawha County complain of its spreading onto agricultural land and posing an eradication problem similar to multi-floral rose.

2. Those against declaring Autumn Olive a noxious weed in Kanawha County point to the plant's usefullness as a wildlife food source and reclamation of stripmine sites.

STAFF COMMENTS

The Department of Natural Resources will have comments to present to the committee in opposition to this proposal.

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