

**HB1513**  
**TESTIMONY**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
W. R. Farrington High School  
1564 North King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. We at Farrington High School have been working collaboratively with Weed & Seed to improve our school and community, and would like that partnership to continue.

For the past few years, Weed & Seed has assisted our school, and specifically, our Restructuring Plan SWB (Successful Workplace Behaviors) circle group with a number of initiatives such as the Attendance Symposium in 2008, scheduled truancy sweeps, and Truancy Saturday School. They were key in recruiting attendees for the symposium and have attended our Saturday School sessions to help counsel students about making good choices and improving their attendance. Most recently, they have been working with some of the Kalihi YMCA counselors to assist us with Truancy Saturday School follow-up and are also in the process of helping us to acquire funding for a SWB student incentive program. They have played a vital role in our efforts to achieve national and state standards and also our school goals.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Al Carganilla".

Al Carganilla  
Principal  
Farrington High School  
1564 N. King St.  
Honolulu, HI 96817

NEIL ABECROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LINAPUNI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,  
1434 LINAPUNI STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

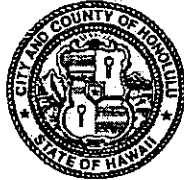
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Sunahara".

Cynthia Sunahara  
Principal  
Linapuni Elementary School  
1434 Linapuni Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org



PETER B. CARLISLE  
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA  
CHIEF

DELBERT T. TATSUYAMA  
RANDAL K. MACADANGDANG  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE

WC-WC

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
The Senate  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Subject: House Bill 15: 13, HD1, Relating to the Weed and Seed Strategy

I am Major William R. Chur of District 5 (Kalihi) of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 1513, HD1. This bill establishes a permanent Weed and Seed program within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and appropriates funds to maintain the Weed and Seed operations in the Ala Moana, Chinatown, Downtown Honolulu, Kalihi, Waipahu, and the Ewa Beach communities.

As a partner in the Weed and Seed program since its inception several years ago, the HPD recognizes the benefits of the program in reducing crime and improving the quality of life for people who live and work in the Weed and Seed designated communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

*William R. Chur*  
WILLIAM R. CHUR, Major  
District 5

APPROVED:

*For* *DC RL Muzzy*  
LOUIS M. KEALOHA  
Chief of Police



# KAUPA

P.O. Box 17673, Honolulu, HI 96817-0673  
Phone: (808)381-3643  
KAUPA@googlegroups.com

"KALII AHUPUA`A ULU PONO AHAHUI"  
The Progressive Watershed Association

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. Weed & Seed is a pertinent strategy for Kalihi, as well as the other areas it supports. I have seen great strides in our community because of Weed & Seed.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community. As a participating organization, I have represented KAUPA - Kalihi Ahupua`a Ulu Pono Ahahui - at monthly Kalihi Weed & Seed meetings. There I am able to network with law enforcement and social service groups that I would otherwise have difficulty to get to know, or not even know about in the first place. Being able to get to know representatives of these groups and participating in the discussions has given me a broader sense of the social problems, and solutions, for Kalihi.

KAUPA coordinates monthly Kalihi stream cleanups, and partnering Weed & Seed organizations have participated in and brought additional volunteers to our cleanups. With the support of Weed & Seed, 493 adults and 1,065 youth have volunteered 4,084 hours at the Kalihi Waena Streambank restoration site since June 2007, worth \$62,260. These efforts removed almost 2 tons of garbage from the stream, 915 lbs. of metals, and 1,000 lbs. of non-native greenwaste. By removing this rubbish from the stream, possible disasters caused by flooding have been reduced, and kept this amount of trash from flowing to Ke`ehi Lagoon and the ocean.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Natale*

Barbara Natale  
KAUPA



**Hawaii's Most Wanted Magazine**

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community. Hawaii's Most Wanted Magazine supports Weed & Seed by providing space in its publications free-of-charge. Projects carried out by the community collaborative partners throughout the Weed & Seed sites are models of crime prevention and reduction successes that can be modeled throughout our State.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support the request for the HB 1513.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley  
Owner

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuru, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Vice Chair Shimabukuru and Members of the Committee:

**Re: HB 1513.HD1 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

I am appealing for your support of HB 1513.HD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

The collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

As a 43-year old resident of this community, I have seen our neighborhoods change tremendously. Since Weed & Seed has been a part of 96706, the changes have been positive – enhancing our lives here in Ewa Beach. Any help you can give in continuing to make Ewa Beach a healthy and safe community to reside in is greatly appreciated!

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource whose strategy needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Weed and Seed is very important and vital to our community, I urge you to support HB 1513.HD1.

Mahalo with a Grateful Heart,



Denise R. Oliveira  
President & Ewa Beach Resident  
Ewa Beach Community Based Development Organization

cc: Senator Mike Gabbard  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.  
Senator Sam Slom

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community. Weed & Seed has helped our Downtown community a much safer place to live. Weed & Seed police regularly come out to support us as we conduct our weekly Citizen's Patrol walks. The Weed & Seed has made sure that we have the necessary supplies and equipment that keep us safe. Weed & Seed stands for a belief in the importance of the community's voice being heard at all levels. This is important to me as a resident of the Downtown/Chinatown area, as it can get quite quarrelsome and political at times.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

Sincerely,



Dolores Mollring  
Resident  
Downtown Citizens Patrol Block Captain  
1255 Nuuanu Ave., E807  
Honolulu, HI 96817



February 25, 2011

Honorable Legislator  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator or Representative:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of the grant-in-aid request to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kallhi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

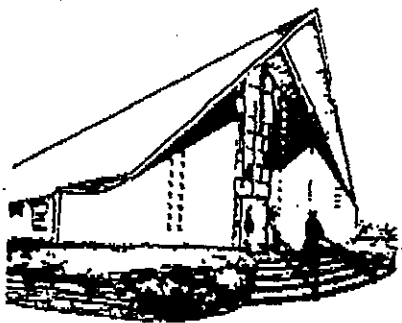
At Kalakaua Homes, Weed and Seed has assisted our public housing residents to grow their capacity in their Citizen's Patrol/Neighborhood Security Watch by providing language access to Honolulu Police Department training. By providing materials and interpreters for training in Korean, Chinese and Vietnamese languages, the group expanded from a once a week patrol, to a five times a week patrol, and growing their membership from 20 residents to over 60. This year, the group celebrates it's 11<sup>th</sup> year of existence as an active, multi-lingual group that patrols the Kalakaua Homes Public Housing property and it's surrounding neighborhoods on Kalakaua Avenue, King, Kaheka and Kanunu Streets. Through Weed and Seed Community Policing initiatives, a new patrol group in the adjacent neighborhood surrounding Sheridan Community Park was formed. On a regular basis, the Citizen's Patrol groups with Honolulu Police Department share crime trends and safety tips, and participate in safe neighborhood initiatives like sign-waving campaigns, joint patrol walks and a number of neighborhood restoration projects. Citizens Patrol members are major partners and a huge volunteer source in projects including graffiti paint-outs, trash clean-ups, and the Makiki Stream restoration. Both the Kalakaua Homes and Sheridan Citizen Patrol Groups have adopted bus stops in their neighborhood for monthly routine maintenance in an effort to eradicate the visual blight of graffiti.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Sincerely,



Kamalani Rodrigues  
Public Housing Specialist  
Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
1545 Kalakaua Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826



**Kalihi Baptist Church**  
1888 Owawa Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-4255  
Telephone and Fax: (808) 845-4584

John Vaughn, Pastor

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community. Weed & Seed has been particularly effective in the area of Kalihi Valley Homes, and surrounding Kam IV Road area. Due to the connection that it gives to law enforcement we are able to reach youth, parents and families, in the area, with positive crime-free messages. In addition to organizing Citizen's Patrols and community clean-ups, Weed & Seed has been a vital presence at many community gatherings and events. The work done within the Weed & Seed strategy has given us ways to work together to make our community safer.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

Sincerely,

Pastor John Vaughn



**Broadcast House of the Pacific, Inc.**

1734 S. King Street • Honolulu, HI 96826 • (808) 946-2844 • 947-3531 FAX

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

We worked previously with Weed and Seed organization airing their messages in Filipino, Samoan, Marshallese, Chuukese and Pohpeian language.

The feedback we received by these communities was very favorable. The communities were very happy to receive some help; but most importantly creating a personal relationship with the Honolulu Police Department in fighting crime.

This is the most imaginative and practical outreach program we ever aired. We are willing to be partners again by providing matching bonus announcement for every paid announcement.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L Jona".

Leona Jona  
Pres./Gen. Mgr.

**PACIFIC GATEWAY CENTER**

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Rm. 407  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Re: HB 1513**

I am writing to request your support of HB 1513 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community. Our organization Pacific Gateway Center was one of the collaborating organizations of Weed and Seed and was energized to be selected for the very first Weed and Seed site. The drastic drop in crime was visible and far reaching.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support HB 1513.

Sincerely,

Tin Myaing Thein, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

THE GENTRY COMPANIES



March 18, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**RE: H.B. 1513, H.D. 1 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

Hearing: Monday, March 21, 2011; 8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 16, State Capitol

I am Debbie Luning, an employee of Gentry Homes and a member of the Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am testifying in strong support of H.B. 1513, H.D. 1, an appropriation measure to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in communities on Oahu

As the developer of a residential community within the Ewa Weed and Seed site, Gentry is very supportive of the Weed and Seed strategy and has been an active participant in this joint effort to make Ewa a nicer, safer place in which to live. We are proud to be a part of the collaborative effort involving law enforcement, citizens, non-profit organizations, social service agencies, community groups and private businesses (such as ours) and are pleased that Ewa is undergoing a positive transformation. Violent and drug-related crimes have been reduced substantially, large drug dealers have been "weeded out" and "seeding" programs have been implemented for families and youth. I believe that the seeding programs are particularly beneficial in helping to shape our youth and in providing positive direction for residents in general.

The Weed and Seed strategy is working. However, additional funding is needed and I urge your support for an appropriation to continue the efforts of Weed and Seed to restore neighborhoods and the families that live within them. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.



Debra M. A. Luning  
Director of Governmental Affairs and  
Community Relations



**HASEKO DEVELOPMENT, INC.**

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: HB 1513.HD1 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

Please support HB 1513.HD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed Strategy in 'Ewa/'Ewa Beach, Waipahu and Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana.

The collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped dramatically reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

The Weed and Seed Strategy has been and continues to be a major factor in improving the health and safety of my community. The truancy rate at area schools has fallen significantly since Weed & Seed came to 'Ewa Beach. Officers, residents and students walk neighborhood streets regularly as part of citizen patrols. In addition, Weed and Seed organizes volunteers to paint out graffiti and clean up parks, and provides valuable life skills and job training via "seeding" efforts such as the summer culinary arts program. By having the Weed & Seed police officers working hand in hand with residents, students, and businesses, fear is replaced by respect – and residents are inspired to work together to keep our community clean and safe.

Weed and Seed is an indispensable organizational tool and community resource whose strategy must be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build and maintain a strong network of committed citizens who work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Weed and Seed is very important to the community, I urge you to support HB 1513.HD1.

Thank you for your support and consideration

Sharene Saito Tam  
Assistant Vice President  
Haseko Development, Inc.

cc: Senator Mike Gabbard  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.  
Senator Sam Slom

91-1001 Kaimaliie Street, Suite 205 • 'Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706-6250  
Telephone (808) 689-7772 • Fax (808) 689-5757



March 17, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee, Chairperson  
Senator Maile Shimabukuru, Vice Chair & members of the Senate Committee  
Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Friends for Boys & Girls Club  
Ewa Beach

Hale Pono Clubhouse  
91-884 Ft. Weaver Rd. Suite A  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
Tel: 808-689-4182  
Fax: 808-689-0625  
[www.bgch.com](http://www.bgch.com)

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuru and Members of the Committee:

**Re: HB 1513.HD1 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

I am appealing for your support of and HB 1513. HD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

The collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

I have seen the improvement in my community; i.e. truancy rate has dropped, less graffiti and crime reported. Demographics have increased due to a safer community; more family and youth activities being offered and mentored by law enforcement to name a few.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource whose strategy needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Weed and Seed is very important to the community, I urge you to support bill HB 1513. HD1.

Sincerely,

Frances Rivero,  
Director, Hale Pono Clubhouse

cc: Members of Judiciary  
Senator Mike Gabbard  
Senator Les Ihara Jr.  
Senator Sam Slom

**Officers**

Carina Tagupa  
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Kran Polk  
Vice President  
Chezlani Lee  
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Hervi Kurisu  
Liana Mulleitner  
Tana Samuelu

**Clubhouse Director**

Frances Rivero

**Executive Director**

David Nakada



**"The Positive Place for Kids"**

March 18, 2011

Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chairperson  
Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuru, Vice Chair  
and the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuru and Members of the Committee:

**Re: HB 1513 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

I am appealing for your support of HB1513.HD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

The collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

I lived in Ewa Beach for over 28 years and still own a home in the area. I will return after my Dad health is better. I have seen firsthand the positive different Weed & Seed has made to the community. It has gone from a drug infested / cock fighting community to a safe place to raise your family. I ask on the behalf of the whole community to continue to support Weed and Seed.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource whose strategy needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Weed and Seed is very important to the community, I urge you to support HB 1513.HD1.



Cal Kimo Sueoka  
Resident

cc: Senator Mike Gabbord  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.  
Senator Sam Slom



March 18, 2011

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuru, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Vice Chair Shimabukuru and Members of the Committee:

**Re: HB 1513.HD1 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

I am appealing for your support of HB 1513.HD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

The collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

My name is Eileen Lynn and the Secretary for the Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee and long time Secretary of the Ewa Beach Lions Club. I'm a 20 year Ewa Beach resident, mother of two, homemaker, community volunteer and servant of the Lord. I have been with the Ewa Weed and Seed initiative since its inception in 2002 as a community volunteer and have witnessed the positive results and numerous success stories.

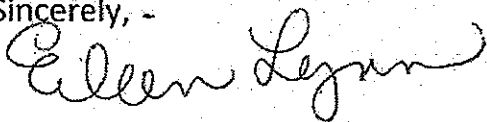
Since its inception, our neighborhood has turned to the Ewa Weed and Seed strategy for help. At our request, the Ewa Weed and Seed Officers have trained us in crime reduction strategies. What we have learned has been put into action and it has worked!

Our community has worked hard to obtain and establish this premier crime reduction initiative and it has been very effective in reducing crime, boosting social services, and neighborhood restoration in Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource whose strategy needs to be continued. Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Weed and Seed is very important to the community, I urge you to support HB 1513.HD1.

Sincerely, -



Eileen Lynn  
91-1139 Hanakahi Street  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

Cc: Senator Mike Gabbard, Senator Les Ihara, Jr. Senator Sam Slom

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

From: Maile Kanemaru  
Director, Weed and Seed Honolulu  
94-440 Mokuola Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

Phone: (808) 678-4278

**RE: H.B. 1513 HD1 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

Hearing: Monday, March 21, 2011  
Time: 8:30am  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

My name is Maile Kanemaru, Director of Honolulu Weed and Seed, and now retired from the YMCA of Honolulu. I have been the Director of Weed and Seed for the past 12 years.

I am testifying in strong support of HB 1513HD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed Strategy in Kalihi/Palama/Chinatown/Ala Moana, Waipahu and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

We are acutely aware of the financial challenges facing this committee as it searches for funding resources. However, we believe that this request for funding will not only be a good return on investment of public funds, but will attract and leverage additional funding from other resources.

The four fundamental principles that underlie the Weed and Seed Strategy are:

- 1) Collaboration – Weed and Seed requires communities to establish a collaborative process to capitalize on the full potential that the systemic interaction can provide. Government, (Federal, State and Local), social service agencies, community organizations and residents play important roles in community safety.
- 2) Coordination – Weed and Seed helps bring together, the many agencies in the community and assists in the coordination of their activities. This eliminates overlap and duplication to get the maximum benefit from existing services and programs.
- 3) Community Participation – Communities that are empowered to solve their own problems function more effectively than communities that depend on services provided by outsiders.

4) Leveraging resources – Weed and Seed sites are expected to leverage all available resources to fully fund their strategies for law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood revitalization.

- Last year, 2010, a total of \$52,577 was leveraged from many organizations for all three sites.
- A total of 1,517 volunteers participated in clean up campaigns and graffiti paint outs for a total of 378 hours or a value \$1,278,599 in labor hours. This figure was calculated based on the information from the independent sector web site on the value of volunteer time. [http://independentsector.org/volunteer\\_time](http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time)
- Through a relationship with the TARGET store, Weed and Seed was able to leverage surveillance cameras valued at \$100,000. These cameras are mobile and can be removed to use in other non Weed and Seed communities. Without your support, it will be difficult to leverage private resources.
- The Festival Market Place/Business Incubator Project in Waipahu has provided 18 tenant stalls, created over 200 jobs and is envisioned to be a model that can be "transplanted" to other rural areas in Hawaii.
- The Ewa site has partnered with Empower Oahu to offer Microenterprise training classes for low-moderate income households who desire to learn how to establish and run their own businesses. As a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area, we will be able to leverage more funding from the Federal government and private sector as we create more jobs

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource whose strategy needs to be continued. Without full support, we have seen neighborhoods return to an environment of high crime and drug dealing. One specific example is Mayor Wright Homes. When there was full funding, Mayor Wright transformed to a safe neighborhood where some residents did not lock their doors at night. When resources diminished and the limited focus had to shift to other areas, Mayor Wright slipped back into a community of fear and crime, underscoring the need for on-going support for that neighborhood.

Without your full support, we will not be able to leverage funding and resources from the private sector as well as the Federal government.

We have put in a request of \$336,000 that will cover essential costs and programmatic services.

Your support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work to improve their communities to be a safe place to live and raise their families.

Thank you for your consideration.



# Meadow Gold Dairies



Testimony by: Glenn Muranaka  
HB 1513hd1, Weed and Seed Strategy  
Sen JDL, Monday, March 21, 2011 – 8:30 am  
Room 016  
Position: Support

Chair Hee and Members of the Sen JDL Committee:

My name is Glenn Muranaka, President and General Manager of Meadow Gold Dairies. Our company has been in Hawaii since 1897—114 years, providing Hawaii consumers with a variety of milk products and juices. Meadow Gold's long history has not come without effort. We continually adapt to our customers' and consumers' ever-changing needs, and we constantly evolve along with our industry, our community and our market. Over the years, this has required that we struggle, tighten our belts, innovate and work extremely hard, making us a better company in the process. The foundation of this work rests with the 350 employees that are committed to providing superior quality products.

We strongly support the program and believe that it is an effective program that does "weed" out criminal elements in targeted communities. Through partnerships with human service organizations as well as businesses and residents, the program plants "seeds" for neighborhood revitalization projects and activities.

We recognize that funding requests are very difficult in these economic times. However, the collaboration model among the county, state, federal agencies and the private sector have proven successful and demonstrate its effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 944-5911.