

March 3, 2011

RE: HR22 AND HCR25 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY REMOVE THE ENVASIVE PLANTS, EXCESSIVE FOLIAGE, AND OTHER DEBRIS FROM THE COASTLINE OF LOWER WAIPAHU

The Honorable Representative Jerry Chang, Chair

The Honorable Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair

My name is Maile Kanemaru and I am the Director of Weed and Seed, Honolulu.

I am in strong support for HR22 and HR25 requesting the United States Navy to remove the debris from the coastline of lower Waipahu.

One of the four components of Weed and Seed is Neighborhood Restoration. This includes economic revitalization as well as addressing community blight. When communities are clean and free of unsightly debris, people take pride in their living spaces and feel good about participating in community events and activities.

In 2010, Weed and Seed assisted in coordinating and recruiting 896 volunteers for clean up campaigns and graffiti paint outs. This amounts to a total of 12,096 hours or a value of \$213,373 in labor hours. This figure was calculated based on information from the independent sector web site on the value of volunteer time.

We are asking for the United States Navy to please partner with the Waipahu Community to make it a clean place to live and raise their families.

Your support of this important resolution will ensure that community stakeholders will continue to work to improve their communities

Thank you for your consideration.

Maile Kanemaru

Director, Weed and Seed Honolulu

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