

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 6, 2012

RE: H.B. No. 2773
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred H.B. No. 2773 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in Hawaii's neighborhoods by:

- (1) Permanently establishing the Weed and Seed Program within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; and
- (2) Appropriating unspecified funds to maintain current operations of the Weed and Seed Program and expand the Weed and Seed Program into other areas of the State.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority of the Department of Human Services, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu Weed and Seed, and numerous concerned individuals testified in support of this measure. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Community Services of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and Department of Public Safety testified in support of the intent of this measure.



Weed and Seed is a program that takes a comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization. This collaborative effort involving law enforcement, community residents, non-profit organizations, community groups, and private businesses has helped to reduce crime and improve the quality of life for neighborhoods that have been designated as weed and seed areas. The program works by attempting to "weed" out the criminal element in the community while simultaneously "seeding" the community through the implementation of prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood revitalization projects, programs, and activities. Continuing these efforts will help reduce crime and improve the quality of life for the people of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing the Office of Community Services to contract out for services to be provided under the Weed and Seed Program;
- (2) Specifying the amount of \$336,000 as the amount appropriated to maintain current operations of the Weed and Seed Program and expand the Weed and Seed Program into other areas of the State; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor & Public Employment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2773, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2773, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Labor & Public
Employment,




KARL RHOADS, Chair



HSCR 90-12

Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2773	Committee Referral: LAB, UUD, FIN	Date: 1-31-12		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
LAB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. RHOADS, Karl (C)	/			
2. YAMASHITA, Kyle T. (VC)	/			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	/			
4. CULLEN, Ty	/			
5. ICHIYAMA, Linda	/			
6. LEE, Marilyn B.	/			
7. LUKE, Sylvia	/			
8. OKAMURA, Tom				/
9. SAIKI, Scott K.	/			
10. SOUKI, Joseph M.	/			
11. TAKUMI, Roy M.	/			
12. FONTAINE, George R.	/			
13. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling	/			
TOTAL (13)	12	-	-	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				