



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor

February 28, 2012

To: The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair,
The Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair; and
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

From: Dwight Y. Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: HB2773HD2 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HB 2773HD2 proposes to establish a Weed and Seed program in the DLIR, through the Office of Community Services (OCS), to maintain the program in areas currently designated for the Weed and Seed program and expand the program into other areas of the state. The bill would also appropriate \$336,000 in General Funds for the program.

DLIR opposes creating a new program within the department under OCS. However, the department does support OCS administering a chapter 42F Grant-in-Aid for the program, as they have for a number of years. The department suggests that any appropriation in the proposal should also cover the administrative costs. Lastly, the DLIR's support of the proposal is contingent upon its passage not displacing the funding priorities of the administration.

II. CURRENT LAW

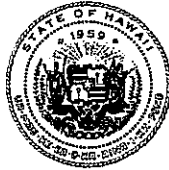
Currently, OCS administers the Weed and Seed Program as a Grant-in-Aid pursuant to chapter 42F. A permanent program does not exist.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

DLIR supports and shares OCS's concerns with the measure as currently drafted. The reduction of crime and drug use is both outside the scope of OCS and the prevention of crime is outside the mission of DLIR. The measure as currently worded would task OCS with providing direct services, which would require significantly more resources including staff. The department notes that under HRS Chapter 371K, OCS's mission is to contract out services to other entities to provide services and then provide administrative support and oversight.

In addition, the proposal establishes a new program within DLIR to maintain and expand the current program, which the department opposes. OCS has administered a chapter 42F Grant-in-Aid for the Weed and Seed Program for a number of years. The department notes that the budget for OCS at both the state and federal levels has decreased over the last few budget cycles.

In sum, the department is supportive of OCS administering a Grant-In-Aid for the Weed and Seed program as long as the proposal's passage does not displace the funding priorities of the administration.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 420
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8675 / Fax: (808) 586-8685
Email: dlir.ocs@hawaii.gov

February 27, 2012

To: The Honorable Marcus Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

From: Mila Kaahanui, MSW
Executive Director
Office of Community Services (OCS)

Testimony for House Bill 2773, HD2-Relating to the Weed and Seed Program

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The current proposal, HB 2773, HD1, would create a Weed and Seed program in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), through the Office of Community Services, as well as create a new requirement for a report to the Legislature to be submitted by the Department. The bill would also appropriate \$336,000 in General Funds for the program. Additionally, the bill would provide a blank 42F grant to the YMCA of Honolulu for the program.

The Office of Community Services supports this legislation, with a few comments.

II. CURRENT LAW

Currently, OCS administers the Weed and Seed Program as a Grant-in-Aid pursuant to Chapter 42F. A permanent program does not exist.

III. COMMENTS ON HOUSE BILL

Given our previous testimony, we will confine our comments to the new section of the bill. In general, OCS is supportive of the program. As we have iterated before, the Weed and Seed program is a true community-building and empowerment program, allowing communities to take charge of their neighborhoods through collective strength and shared ideals.

This bill confuses the fiscal impact somewhat by creating both a permanent program and a grant-in-aid pursuant to HRS, Chapter 42F. We appreciate the Legislature's intent to provide funding options for the program, however would like to comment that if the bill passes as currently worded, it would create an incredible situation of favoritism with one set of funds and an uncomfortable procurement with the general fund program.

As stated in previous testimonies by OCS, we would also like to ensure whatever program is funded, if any, contains a provision for the recovery of our administrative costs, and does not interfere with the priorities of the Executive Supplemental Budget.

We thank you for the opportunity to testify and are available for questions.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA MCMANAMAN
DIRECTOR
BARBARA A. YAMASHITA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 28, 2012

TO: The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

Subject: **H.B. 2773, H.D.2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012; 3:00 a.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 2773, H.D.2 is to establish a weed and seed program within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and provide an unspecified appropriation for the program.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of H.B. 2773, H.D. 2 to help with a comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention and community revitalization.

The existing Weed and Seed Honolulu is currently under the umbrella of the YMCA. The Weed and Seed is involved with community revitalization in Waipahu, Ewa Beach and Kalihi-Palama. At the request of the Governor's Office, the Weed and Seed was asked to rejuvenate its program at the Mayor Wright Homes (MWH). The DHS coordinated with Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Department of Public Safety, U.S. Housing and Urban Development, and U.S. Attorney's Office, and Weed and Seed to

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

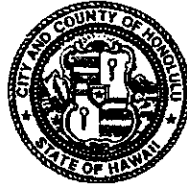
facilitate the return of the Weed and Seed to MWH. As a result of the coordinated effort and collaboration among these agencies, a one-year Memorandum of Understanding was agreed upon by the parties to have the Weed and Seed assist HPHA in improving the security and safety environment at MWH and to help provide social programs that benefits the residents of MWH.

The Weed and Seed has a track record of success in all the communities that it has been involved with. The DHS supports its continued existence, the intent of this measure, but takes no position as to where Weed and Seed should be housed and defers to the earlier testimony each submitted by the Office of Community Service and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. It is our understanding that the Honolulu Weed and Seed has submitted a Grants-in-Aid application for the upcoming fiscal year. We leave it to the Committee's judgment as to whether this will be the more appropriate vehicle to accomplish the purpose of the bill, namely the continued support for the existence of the Honolulu Weed and Seed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO
MARIE A. McCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE
WC-WC

February 28, 2012

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
and Members
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

Re: House Bill No. 2773, HD2, Relating to the Weed and Seed Program

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

The HPD supports House Bill No. 2773, HD2. This bill establishes and appropriates funding for a Weed and Seed program within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

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 Chur
WILLIAM R. CHUR, Major

APPROVED:

for 
LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police



February 10, 2012

The Honorable Marcus Oshiro, Chair, and Members
House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

RE: H.B. 2773, H.D. 2 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012; 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308, 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. 2773, H.D. 2, an appropriation measure to sustain the Weed and Seed program in communities on Oahu.

As the developer of a residential community within the Ewa Weed and Seed site, Gentry is very supportive of continued funding for the Weed and Seed program. We have been active participants in 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.

The Weed and Seed program is working. However, we need to continue the efforts to restore neighborhoods and the families that live within, and I urge your support of this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Luning'.

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

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 am a Department of Health Public Health Nurse and a member of the Waipahu Community Coalition. I am an avid supporter of Weed and Seed because I have seen their diligent efforts to improve the Waipahu community. The Weed and Seed officers and site coordinator work actively with elementary, intermediate and high school students to combat and prevent substance abuse, truancy and gang involvement. They have assisted in creating neighborhood security watches in the most at-risk neighborhoods and have empowered the residents to report illegal activities promptly. Weed and Seed also organized graffiti paint outs and participated in beautification projects. They are an integral part of the Waipahu Community Coalition and help to provide safe, healthy and drug free activities for the residents of Waipahu. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated Weed and Seed team. I have seen the improvement in my community through decreased crime and increased community awareness of illegal activities.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,

Jan Nishihira, RN
State of Hawaii
Department of Health
Public Health Nursing
Leeward Oahu PHN Section
94-275 Mokuola St. Rm. 101
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

The Ewa Beach Community Based Development Organization (Ewa Beach CBDO) supports Weed and Seed and is requesting funding be given so we can reduce crimes damaging our neighborhood such as drugs and burglaries.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 HB2773.

Sincerely,

Christiane Bolosan-Yee

President of Ewa Beach Community Based Development Organization

(808) 778-3230

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

The Weed and Seed program has provided Ilima Intermediate School with additional resources that otherwise would not be available. They have always been willing to help us with various things, the most recent being chaperones for our after school social. While providing their assistance in these activities, they were constantly building relationships with the adults on campus and more importantly, the students here at our school. These positive relationships can go a long way in the development of our young adolescents in helping them to stay on the right path.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 HB2773.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Ing
Ilima Intermediate School
Student Activities Coordinator
808.687.9325

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 2:16 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: stam@haseko.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2773 on 2/28/2012 3:00:00 PM
Attachments: 2012_02.27 HB2773_Letter_Of_Support_FIN.pdf

Testimony for FIN 2/28/2012 3:00:00 PM HB2773

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sharene Saito Tam
Organization: Haseko Development, Inc.
E-mail: stam@haseko.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2012

Comments:

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 have helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

Empower Oahu has worked with Weed and Seed in each of the project communities through its Neighborhood Revitalization and Community Strengthening Programs. In addition, it plays an integral role in meeting the social and economic objectives outlined in each communities Neighborhood Plan.

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 2773, HD 2 .

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Alameida, CFP
Executive Director
Empower Oahu

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIPAHU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
94-465 Waipahu Street
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 crimes and drug-related crimes in my community.

Waipahu Elementary School's support for Weed & Seed Waipahu is a direct result of the valuable service every member of the organization provides to not only our school, but also the entire Waipahu community. Weed & Seed Waipahu and the YMCA of Honolulu have partnered with our school in a variety of ways to support our students and families. The police officers and site coordinator assist us with our Drug Free parade through the community, they have done presentations to parents and families, and have also contributed to prevention efforts by mentoring our 6th grade students in rap sessions.

Beyond those significant efforts developed through our school partnership, I personally support and believe in the direction and goals of the Weed & Seed program. Coordination of efforts and leveraging of resources has allowed progress to occur in shaping a prideful and more resourceful Waipahu community. Because of that, I do participate in and support Weed & Seed activities whenever possible, even if these events are not school related.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul S. Taga".

Paul S. Taga
Principal



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Ewa Makai Middle School
91-6201 Kapolei Parkway
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

The Weed and Seed officers are looked upon as not only policeman but as active participants and leaders in our school setting. They have done presentations to our students about --- bicycle and pedestrian safety, career in law enforcement, and drug and alcohol awareness. They have also interacted with our students as referees in football, basketball and other sports. They have assisted us in mass evacuation and other safety school drills.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 HB2773.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Oshiro".

Ed Oshiro

Principal of Ewa Makai Middle School

Neil Abercrombie
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KALAKAUA MIDDLE SCHOOL
821 Kalihi St.
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Kalakaua Middle School has benefitted from the Weed & Seed program through assistance with our Career Days, Ohana Fairs, and Bullying presentation to our faculty by Weed & Seed police officers. Our counselor and SASA both attended the Gang Violence Prevention Training this past September and are currently active with the plans being made for the follow-up project in KPT later this month. Weed & Seed is a regular resource that can be drawn upon to benefit our students, families and neighborhood.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorelei Karasaki".

Lorelei Karasaki
Principal
Kalakaua Middle School
821 Kalihi St.
Honolulu, HI 96819

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LINAPUNI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1434 LINAPUNI STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96818

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

The dedication of Weed & Seed staff and police officers; to connect to our students, school and community, has inspired school faculty to work a little bit later and do a little bit more for community-based prevention projects. These activities, that have helped educate our families, inevitably help stabilize our students for better success and attendance in school.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,

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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

KATHRYN MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
GOVERNOR SANFORD B. DOLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
1803 KAM IV ROAD
HONOLULU, HI 96819
P11-9808) 832-3340

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 -- RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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. In the recent past, Dole Middle School has worked in collaboration with Weed & Seed and other community partners to improve quality of life and address some the issues prevalent as daily realities for our families. Weed & Seed hosted a Gang Violence Prevention Training which we participated in.

Along with others that attended, we are now almost set to implement a Community Speak Out event at Kuhio Park Terrace on 2/29/12. This event will allow us to connect with the residents themselves as we seek to provide services and educational opportunities that address the needs as heard from them. This past January, 150 of our students assisted in a large-scale graffiti paint over where they were able to work in unison with police, Rep. John Mizuno and his staff, and the Hauiki Citizen's Patrol group. Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued.

Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,

Bev Carter
for

Mrs. Arnie Kikawa, Principal

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM


I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Walpahu, 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.

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, Truancy Saturday School, and Gang Violence Prevention Training. 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 community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,

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

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



Kaumakapili Church

Established 1838

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
766 NORTH KING STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
PHONE: (808) 845-0908

Kahu Richard K. Kamanu, Senior Pastor
Kahu David K. Kaupu, Emeritus (Retired)

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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. Although, recently the community had to deal with violent crime activity within the last six months, compared to where we were 5 years ago the number of violent crimes has actually decreased.

We have partnered with this program by making our facilities available for community and program meetings, as well as, a location for surveillance of illegal activity in our vicinity. We have vowed to continue to support and partner with this program.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard K. Kamanu', written over a horizontal line.

Kahu Richard K. Kamanu
Kahu Mua, Senior Pastor



Broadcast House of the Pacific, Inc.

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

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 part of the Weed & Seed effort to reduce crime, we helped by airing educational messages to the community in Filipino, Samoan, Tongan, Marshallese, Chuukese and Pohnpeian languages.

The feedback we received from 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.

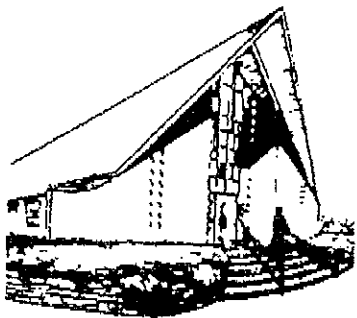
This is the one of the most imaginative and practical outreach program to get through to these communities. We are willing partners of Weed & Seed and will always do our best to help the cause by providing affordable campaigns with announcements in Ethnic Languages.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,

Leona Jona
Pres./Gen. Mgr.



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

John Vaughn, Pastor

February 26, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2. -- RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2. to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Weed & Seed has been particularly effective in the area of Kalihi Valley Homes, and the surrounding Kam IV Rd. area. The work done within the Weed & Seed strategy has given us ways to work together to make our community safer. Church members feel encouraged and supported to give a little extra time and effort to our neighborhood. We remove graffiti and pick up trash on a regular basis whenever we can. Through Weed & Seed we have learned not to wait around or expect others (like government) to do what we can very easily do for ourselves.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,

Pastor John Vaughn

**PACIFIC GATEWAY CENTER**

February 26, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2. – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2. to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,

Tin Myaing Thein, Ph.D.
Executive Director

**HAWAII'S
MOST WANTED****Hawaii's Most Wanted Magazine**

February 26, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2. – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2. to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Hawaii's Most Wanted Magazine support 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 that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley".

Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley
Owner



February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
 The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
 & Members of the House Committee on Finance
 Hawaii State Capitol
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to support SB 2261 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 when it operates as an active program in areas that need such interventions.

Weed & Seed has in the past been a partner with Hawaii Literacy to utilize federal funding to increase our capacity to deliver free literacy services to over 500 youth and families of Kuhio Park Terrace and Mayor Wright Homes. In 2008 and 2009, funds through Weed & Seed helped us to purchase needed equipment and supplies that enhanced our services in these communities, and allowed us to expand our after-school and evening literacy, education, and ESL programs to six days a week and provide much needed positive, educational activities that build literacy and life skills for families with many needs. We were proud that our program could be one of the "Seeds" for a better community!

Weed and Seed is a viable organizational tool and community resource that could have great impact if continued. Your support of this bill would allow community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities. Mahalo for your consideration and for all your work to make our communities safer and livable for everyone.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Skjold
 Executive Director

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Hawaii Literacy • 200 N Vineyard Blvd, Suite 320 • Honolulu, HI 96817
 Telephone (808) 537-6706 • Facsimile (808) 537-3072 • Internet: www.hawaiiliteracy.org



February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2 is needed to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed facilitates collaboration amongst law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses to devise strategies and programs to "weed" out violent and drug-related crimes and plant the "seeds" of new and viable businesses and activities in our communities. Weed and Seed has provided the Fort Street Mall Business Improvement District Association with a conduit that enables our merchants to share concerns and discuss ideas and strategies, in addition to providing our mall community with a better understanding of law enforcement.

Weed and Seed enables us to gather, talk, and develop practical and realistic solutions that can positively affect our community. Weed and Seed has allowed us to build consensus amongst our diverse stakeholders and it has given us credibility and a voice that is heard. Weed and Seed is vital to ensure that our community maintains a strong network as the drug problem and its accompanying social ills are not easily eliminated or resolved.

Please support HB 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Yokoi".

Gene Yokoi
President & Executive Director



CEDAR
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

P.O. Box 201429, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820 www.cedaraag.com

Sr Pastor: Jimmy Yamada

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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. This is an important model: to have communities work together.

In the very recent past, Cedar Assembly of God has partnered with Weed & Seed to address some of the issues in the Kuhio Park Terrace area. We are currently working on connecting with the residents in the community to find out about the issues that are important to them, and the solutions that they can be a part of. We have members of our church involved in planning and implementing a Kalihi Community Forum coming up at the end of this month.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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.

Sincerely,


Sr Pastor James T Yamada (Jimmy Yamada)

TJ MAHONEY & ASSOCIATES

Ka Hale Ho`āla Hou No Nā Wāhine

The Home of Reawakening For Women

February 22, 2012

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair; Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Hawaii State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SUPPORT FOR HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

This letter is being written in strong support of the Grant-In-Aid funding requested to sustain the Weed and Seed strategy in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. Our program, TJ Mahoney & Associates, Ka Hale Ho`āla Hou No Na Wāhine (The Home of Reawakening for Women), contracts with the State Department of Public Safety and provides residential transitional services for female offenders exiting the criminal justice system and re-entering the community.

Nine years ago, our program re-located from the Makiki area to the Kalihi Palama area. As an organization, we are extremely conscientious about being good neighbors and participating in pro-social and positive neighborhood enhancing efforts. For this reason, we partnered with Weed and Seed in their efforts to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in our community. Our on-going collaboration with Weed and Seed provides our residents with the opportunity to give back to the community in meaningful ways, participating in positive, pro-social interactions with a wide array of community members. This serves to decrease the stigma surrounding ex-offenders and increases the potential for their successful community re-integration.

We commend Weed and Seed for their positive contributions to community safety and urge you to support their request for Grant-In-Aid funding. It is our contention that this project benefits all in helping make safer communities for everyone.

If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 748-4309.

Very Truly Yours,

TJ Mahoney & Associates
Ka Hale Ho`āla Hou No Nā WāhineLorraine Robinson
Executive Director



CHINATOWN BUSINESS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

華埠商家與社區協會

HB 2773

1181 Wanaka Street Honolulu Hawaii 96818

Tel: 808-391-4350 Fax: 808 422-7803 www.cbca-hi.com email: clskwock@aol.com

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Ivy Kinney

Erin Nakamoto

Patti Nakamoto

Tori Kinney

Sandy Ng

Lena Le

Beryl Ming Yu

Legal Counsel

February 27, 2012

Letter of Support for Weed & Seed District One
Including Chinatown, Liliha & Kalihi

CBCA supports Weed and Seed and are requesting funding be given so we can reduce crimes damaging our neighborhood such as drugs, prostitution, gambling, graffiti and burglaries.

Chinatown is an important area and has a history of such repeated crimes making it an unsafe place for tourists and residents alike. Recent passage of laws limiting contact with middle and high school students with drug dealers and prostitutes have helped some but a regular HPD and Weed and Seed programs are very urgently needed.

Mahaloi

Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock,
President, CBCA
391-4350

February 27, 2012



The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice chair
& members of the Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Friends for Boys & Girls Club
Hale Pono Ewa Beach
Clubhouse**
91-884 Fort Weaver Rd. Suite A
Ewa Beach HI 96706
Tel: 808.689.4182
Fax: 808.689.0625
www.bgch.com

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and members of the Committee

RE: HB 2773 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Through the years Weed and Seed has been very instrumental to the Ewa Beach community, its youth family and businesses. My years of involvement with the Weed and Seed's initiative, I've witness the changes within our community; as less crime, and truancy dwindles each year, graffiti has been less few and the community has been safer for our youth, family and business.

Their involvement with various programs and projects should be recognized as one of the leading programs in the state. Officer's involvement with youth in the capacity of mentoring, being positive role models for youth that provides various programs within the school system and community as intramurals, culinary arts Jr. bowling, Jr. Golf, Health to Ocean (H2)) programs, that gives youth an alternative to positive programs than the streets. In support of community involvement and partnership, the citizen patrol program with both youth and adults have been on-going for over six years, graffiti paint outs to help beautify our community, and various community projects that secures and reinforces safety concerns and issues community may have.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. It is with great importance they continue the efforts in keeping our community safe and our youth out of harm's way.

Your support of this important program 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 SB2261.

Sincerely,

Frances Rivero
Director- Hale Pono Clubhouse

Officers

- Jamie Giambrone
President
- Georgette Stevens
Vice President
- Chezlani Lee
Secretary
- Walter Enriquez
Treasurer

Board of Directors

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- Raedeen Itamoto
- Eileen Lynn
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- Cheryl Nekota
- Denise Oliveira
- Arthur Pelkaus
- Tawny Porter
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- Carina Tagupa
- Naomi Takamori
- Sharene Tam
- Lee Tokuhara
- Eric Wong
- Stacey Yonamine

Clubhouse Director

- Frances Rivero
- Chief Professional Officer**
Tim Motts



Great Futures Starts Here.


MERIDIAN PACIFIC, LTD.

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
 The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
 & Members of the House Committee on Finance
 State Capitol
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2- RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Over the past eleven years of managing the Waipahu Town Center, I have seen and experienced much improvement in our Waipahu community as a result of the direct involvement and tireless hours that the Weed and Seed officers have devoted into educating and mentoring our keiki, young adults and parents to seek the right choices in creating better lives for themselves. The Waipahu community will always need the assistance of outreach programs however, Weed and Seed has proven to be a success on its own coat tails amongst the residents and businesses.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,

MERIDIAN PACIFIC

Agent for Waipahu, LLC


 Carol Y. Brack
 Executive Vice President

MERIDIAN PACIFIC, LTD.
 1801 Tiburon Boulevard, Suite 600
 Tiburon, CA 94920
 415/789-5530 FAX: 415/789-5564

MERIDIAN PACIFIC
 94-050 Farrington Highway, Suite E1-3
 Waipahu, Hawaii 96797
 808/677-6700 FAX: 808/671-2427

www.meridianpacifictd.com

REAL ESTATE Lenders Principals/Developers
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February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2. – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2. to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Working in public housing in the Kamehameha Homes and Kaahumanu Homes communities, I have seen the impact of the Weed & Seed program to reduce and prevent crime. Through its support of the tenant associations and the prevention activities that they conduct throughout the year; through graffiti removal and area beautification and through the establishment of Citizen's Patrols and regular communication and contact with district HPD officers; Weed & Seed has proven itself to be an integral part of the community and surrounding neighborhood.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,



Wade Kau
BMW Supervisor II
Kamehameha Homes
State of Hawaii
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2. – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, H.D. 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

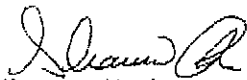
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Working in public housing in the Kamehameha Homes and Kaahumanu Homes communities, I have seen the impact of the Weed & Seed program to reduce and prevent crime. Through its support of the tenant associations and the prevention activities that they conduct throughout the year; through graffiti removal and area beautification and through the establishment of Citizen's Patrols and regular communication and contact with district HPD officers; Weed & Seed has proven itself to be an integral part of the community and surrounding neighborhood.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,



Shaunna Okuda
Public Housing Specialist II
State of Hawaii
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

I am a supporter of Weed and Seed because I have seen the improvement in our community through decreased crime and increased community awareness of illegal activities. They have realized that crime prevention must start at a younger age and they work with elementary, intermediate, and high school students to combat and prevent substance abuse, truancy, and gang involvement. They have organized graffiti paint outs and participated in beautification projects. They have assisted in creating neighborhood security watches in the most at-risk neighborhoods and have empowered the residents to report illegal activities promptly. They have partnered with "GEAR Up Waipahu" and New Hope Leeward to create the FRESH START program which targets (current) Waipahu High School 10th grade students who are on the verge of failing or who are repeating the 9th grade.

They work with 6th graders at Waipahu Elementary for their "Real and Powerful Sessions" educating the students about juvenile laws, substance abuse and illicit activity and help to empower the students to make safer choices as they age.

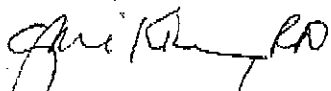
They will also be instrumental in hosting the first meeting in Waipahu to discuss how the community can support the state and federal government concerning prison re-entry into the community.

They are an integral part of the Waipahu Community Coalition and help to provide safe, healthy and drug free activities for the residents of Waipahu. It is a pleasure working with such dedicated professionals and I look forward to working with them in future projects.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,



Gail Kim, RN
State of Hawaii
Department of Health
Public Health Nursing
Leeward Oahu PHN Section
94-275 Mokuola St. Rm. 101
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

2.27.12

The Honorable Representative Mervyn Doherty, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Doherty, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kaili-Chinatown-
Aiea 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.

Our weed and seed partners have played an integral part in preserving the safety of our student body of
2800 and of our faculty and staff of approximately 200. While being the biggest high school in the state
of Hawaii, they are available at times when safety is a concern for all of us. Our partnership with weed
and seed partners relays the message to our community that we value that our children feel safe when
coming to school. When our students feel safe then learning can take place.

A great example of their caring for our students is when they are with us during our Adopt a Block
projects in the community. Alongside them we tackle the issues of graffiti and illegal dumping on our
roadways and community walls.

Another example is when they assist us with our periodic truancy sweep events. Besides arresting
truant students, they also counsel our children to make the right decisions and come to school on time.

There are many more examples defining our partnerships, and it would be terrible if this partnership
would suddenly end. The support that we get from our weed and seed partners are truly detrimental in
the success for all of our students.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued.
Your support of this important program 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 HB2773.

Sincerely,

Wayne Guevara

Vice Principal

James Campbell High School

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

The Weed & Seed program has really helped the Waipahu community in its efforts to clean up the city and install pride in Waipahu. You can see community residents, business leaders, and people from the churches and schools in Waipahu come together in support of this program. Events such as town hall meetings, graffiti paint-outs, bike path clean-up, Waipahu beautification day, Waipahu cane haul run, and 3-on-3 basketball tournaments have all been organized and implemented to bring the community together and keep our children active in positive ways to prevent drugs and crime.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Ventura
Vice President & Area Manager
First Hawaiian Bank Waipahu Branch
808-671-3978

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

I am appealing for your support of SB 2261 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Weed and Seed has always supported our school, Waipahu Intermediate, by responding to any emergency calls where police is needed, helped with addressing our at-risk populations, worked with students on a one-on-one basis, given us consultation on a case to case basis...the list goes on. If Weed and Seed is eliminated, our school will have lost an important community partner who helps us educate our students on how to be contributing citizens to society.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,



Lisa T. Ynigues
Waipahu Intermediate School
Vice Principal
808-675-0177

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 resident of Kaahumanu Homes I see Weed & Seed working in our community and makes a difference. Weed & Seed helped us with our Christmas Celebration that we could give our kids goody bags and a nice time. The Kaahumanu Homes Citizen's Patrol walks every week to make our place safe. On behalf of our board, we want Weed & Seed to stay.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,



Rose Ayala-Switzer
Resident
Tenant Association President
Kaahumanu Homes

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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.

Being a resident of Kamehameha Homes and a faculty of Kalakaua Middle School I have seen and experienced the impact of the Weed & Seed in my community and school. Weed & Seed police officers regularly participate in functions to educate our students and parents. A citizen's patrol regularly walks our streets to document and report crime weekly. The response by Weed & Seed to community issues and concerns continues to be appreciated.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773.

Sincerely,



Lehua Lum
Resident
Kamehameha Homes

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773 H.D. 2. – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773 H.D. 2. to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

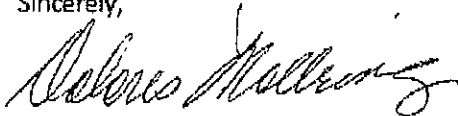
The collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes.

Weed & Seed has helped our Downtown community to be 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 that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773 H.D. 2.

Sincerely,



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

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program 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 parent of 6 children and 2 grandchildren living in Waipahu, my first priority is the safety of my family. Unfortunately, my home of 19 years, Waipahu, has the stigma of being a bad place to live. While I acknowledge that we have criminal and drug issues, I also know that Waipahu is a safer place to live because of Weed and Seed. Through Weed and Seed, we have a team of officers who are designated to work hand in hand with the community to solve problems. In fact, just last year, they arrested some people for prostitution near where I live.

As a parent-community facilitator at an area elementary school, I have seen the improvement in the way our students/children relate to police officers. In the past, many of our children viewed officers as aggressive people who only caused harm to their 'ohana. Through the partnerships that the Weed & Seed officers have created, it has changed their views. They now see police officers as people who are looking out for their best interests. Weed and Seed has educated individuals on how drugs and other negative influences ruin families and community. Weed and Seed has empowered residents to take back their community. As the saying goes, "Ohana means no one is left behind." I believe that because of Weed and Seed, no one in Waipahu is left behind.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,


Rochelle Katili

Resident of Waipahu
94-207 Waipahu Street #196
Waipahu HI 96797
861-6574

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

Re: HB 2773, HD 2- RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Hearing: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 3:00pm in Room 308

I am appealing for your support of HB 2773, HD 2 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Barbara Tom. I recently retired from the DOH as a Public Health Nurse but continue to work closely with the Waipahu Community Coalition which I chaired for a number of years. The Coalition's main mission is to develop a safe and healthy community for Waipahu. **The Weed and Seed Program has been an active and key partner with the Coalition in collaborating with residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses to help us focus on crime reduction and drug prevention.**

For example, one of the preventative activities that Weed and Seed leads in our community is the RAP Program provided to Waipahu and Honowai Elementary School students. RAP stands for Real and Powerful sessions. Weed & Seed conducts weekly sessions with the students on making appropriate and informed decisions on drugs, internet safety, school attendance, and bullying.

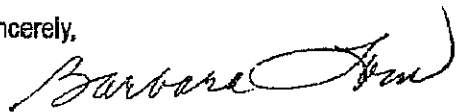
Another program offered by Weed & Seed in Waipahu is Fresh Start which in partnership with Waipahu High School and Gear Up, targets youth that are on track for failure. Weed and Seed conducts workshops and supports educational excursions that teach students and parents skills in communication, problem solving and decision making. The goal is to give these students a much needed "fresh start".

In addition to these programs, they help us organize many drug free activities for our community such as our annual Waipahu 5K Cane Haul Run/Walk, Taste of Waipahu, Historical Tour of Waipahu, Waipahu Christmas Parade and Carnival, Christmas Adopt-A-Family, etc. To eradicate the ever growing problem of neighborhood blight, Weed and Seed organizes graffiti paint outs and community clean ups. In addition, they have even been involved with a community group of Micronesian women in Pupuole and have shared information on domestic violence and other safety issues. As a Public Health Nurse, I know that prevention is often times a much more cost effective intervention than paying for drug treatment and incarceration.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 2773, HD 2.

Sincerely,



Barbara Tom, Retiree and Citizen
98-1854 Mikiolia Place
Aiea, HI 96701

February 24, 2012

The Honorable Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
& Members of the Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Re: HB 2773– RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

Please vote in favor of HB2773 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

All of the collaborative efforts involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses have helped reduce violent crime and drug-related crimes tremendously in our communities.

Since the Ewa Beach/Ewa Weed and Seed program took root in our community a sense of value, family and pride thrives amongst young and old alike. Each taking the time out to get active and actually call in when they see crime or suspect something is not right. Parks are cleaner, streets are safer and illegal activity is no longer running rapid in our streets. The illegal activities are now less visible, but it still exists and I am afraid that if we do not have this type of program we will lose the progress and momentum we have gained since 2006.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. Your support of this important program 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 would like to thank you for your consideration of this very important issue and once again I humbly ask you to support HB2773.

Sincerely,

Tesha H. Malama

Long-time Ewa Beach Resident