

LATE TESTIMONY

March 14, 2012

The Honorable Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair of PBM
The Honorable Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair of PBM
The Honorable Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair of LAB
The Honorable Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair of LAB
& Members of the House Committees on PBM and LAB
State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Aquino and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Cullen and Yamashita and Members of the Committees:

**Re: SB 2261 SSCR 2727 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM
Joint Hearing: Thursday, March 15, 2012, 9:00am in Conference Room 309**

I am appealing for your support SB 2261 SSCR 2727 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.

Weed & Seed has been a healthy outlet for the youth in our community. One example is when Weed & Seed initiated and partnered with the Boys & Girls Club, Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii Prince Golf Course, and Volunteers, such as myself to put on a FREE 8 week golf clinic which included a 9 hole tournament on the last week of instruction. The youth and parents appreciated the program very much and in fact some of the older youth became volunteers the following years.

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 SB 2261 SSCR 2727.

Sincerely,

John Ahokovi

Ewa Beach Resident

LATE TESTIMONY

March 12, 2012

The Honorable Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair of PBM
The Honorable Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair of PBM
The Honorable Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair of LAB
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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.

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.

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Weed and Seed is very important to the community. I urge you to support SB 2261 SSCR 2727.

Sincerely,

Tesha Malama
Long time resident

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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.

I am a long time resident from Ewa Beach. Before Weed and Seed came to this community Ewa Beach was considered the Wild West. Working with the Officers and Site Coordinator, this community now works as a team and excellent afterschool programs are now available for the youth. We need Weed and Seed to continue. Without this program, Ewa Beach will lose control. We need the support from Weed and Seed to continue working with us.

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 SB 2261 SSCR 2727.

Sincerely,



Cal Kimo Sueoka
Resident