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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that "weed and seed" is a  
2 program sponsored by the United States Attorney's Office in  
3 partnership with the Young Men's Christian Association of  
4 Honolulu. Initiated in 1992, weed and seed is a comprehensive  
5 multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and  
6 community revitalization. Although no longer funded by the  
7 United States Department of Justice, weed and seed is a  
8 recognized brand name in Hawaii, having been in existence since  
9 1998. It is a robust program doing substantial good in our  
10 communities.

11           The weed and seed program is a collaborative effort among  
12 law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, and county  
13 levels, social service agencies, private businesses, nonprofit  
14 organizations, and residents to reclaim, restore, and rebuild  
15 communities. The four key elements of the weed and seed  
16 strategy are:

- 17           (1) Law enforcement;
- 18           (2) Community policing;



- 1 (3) Prevention, intervention, and treatment programs; and
- 2 (4) Neighborhood restoration.

3 The weed and seed program works with local law enforcement  
4 to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and  
5 gang activity in targeted neighborhoods by "weeding" out the  
6 criminal element in the community. Community policing involves  
7 having police officers work closely with community residents to  
8 develop solutions to violent and drug-related crimes. "Seeding"  
9 the community involves collaboration among various human  
10 services organizations to implement prevention, intervention  
11 treatment, and neighborhood revitalization projects, programs,  
12 and activities.

13 The legislature further finds that the State has benefited  
14 greatly from weed and seed programs at sites on Oahu that  
15 encompass Ala Moana, Chinatown, downtown Honolulu, Kalihi,  
16 Waipahu, and Ewa Beach. Since the implementation of the  
17 strategy, crime in those areas has been reduced significantly.  
18 The legislature further finds that the strategy's success  
19 warrants maintaining the operations of the weed and seed program  
20 in these communities, and envisions expanding it to other  
21 communities in the future.



1 The purpose of this Act is to:

2 (1) Establish a permanent weed and seed program within the  
3 department of labor and industrial relations to  
4 continue its success; and

5 (2) Appropriate funds to maintain current operations of  
6 the weed and seed program and expand the weed and seed  
7 program into other areas of the State.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 371, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
10 and to read as follows:

11 "§371- Weed and seed program; established. (a) There  
12 is established within the department the weed and seed program.  
13 The program shall be a collaborative effort among residents, law  
14 enforcement agencies, social service providers, educators, area  
15 businesses, and other resource agencies and support  
16 organizations to:

17 (1) Reduce crime and improve the quality of life for  
18 residents and neighborhoods in the State;

19 (2) Create, initiate, implement, and support responsible,  
20 community-based activities, projects, and services  
21 that help reduce crime and drug use in neighborhoods;



- 1       (3) Engage members of the community to encourage the
- 2           development and maintenance of economic and social
- 3           well-being; and
- 4       (4) Teach and model collaborative efforts that focus on
- 5           sustainable results.
  
- 6       (b) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of
- 7       each regular session of the legislature, the department shall
- 8       submit a report to the legislature and the governor on its
- 9       activities, including projects completed or ongoing, funds
- 10       expended, and other relevant data or information on the
- 11       program."

12           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$            or so much  
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
16 2014-2015 as a grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised  
17 Statutes, to the Young Men's Christian Association of Honolulu  
18 to maintain the operations of the weed and seed program on the  
19 island of Oahu.

20           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
21 of labor and industrial relations for the purposes of this Act.



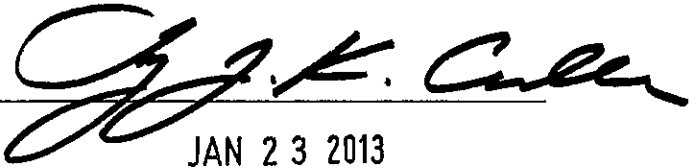
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1 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

  
JAN 23 2013



# H.B. NO. 1110

**Report Title:**

Weed and Seed Program; Permanent Establishment; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a permanent weed and seed program within department of labor and industrial relations. Appropriates funds to YMCA to continue operation of the program on Oahu. Effective July 1, 2013.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

