



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – LEEWARD DISTRICT
JAMES CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL
91-980 NORTH ROAD
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706

April 1, 2018

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 HD1 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Shayne Greenland and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past four years as the Vice Principal at James Campbell High School.

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, 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 have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

James Campbell High School is very appreciative of the Ewa Weed and Seed Program as we utilize the resources during our quarterly truancy sweeps. These sweeps not only allow for the officers to develop a relationship with administrators and staff but that with students as well. They also conduct a great number of youth programs that serve as a bond within our community. The Ewa Weed and Seed Program in my mind has assisted many youth to stay off the streets and develop a new circle of friends and activities. The Ewa Weed and Seed Program is an important organizational tool and community resource, which needs to be continued. Your continued 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.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting HB2051 HD1 SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Shayne Greenland

Shayne Greenland
91-980 North Road
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PU'UHALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
345 PU'UHALE ROAD
HONOLULU, HI 96819

April 3, 2018

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 HD1 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Aloha! My name is Arnie Kikkawa and I am the principal for Puuhale Elementary School. Weed and Seed has been supporting the Honolulu Police Department with a youth mentoring program at our school for the past 4 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department have been offering the Real And Powerful (RAP) program to our fifth grade students for the past 4 years. This youth mentoring program challenges our students to make better choices and to take responsibility for their actions. We are grateful to have this program at our school as we feel it is important for our students to be educated on issues such as bullying, self-identity, drugs, gangs, and juvenile laws. Our students have also benefitted from the educational outings that they have been involved in as it has provided them with a greater appreciation for our community and island home.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued 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.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting HB2051 HD1 SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Arnie Kikkawa".

Arnie Kikkawa, Principal



April 2, 2018

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: H.B. 2051, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY
Hearing: Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:00 a.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Debbie Luning, Community Relations Director for Gentry Homes and a board member of Weed and Seed Hawaii. I am also a member of the Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am testifying in **strong support** of H.B. 2051, as amended, which appropriates an undesignated sum of moneys to maintain and expand the Weed & Seed strategy.

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 and we 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. These programs include youth activities, such as bowling and junior golf, ocean sports, summer culinary arts classes, health and fitness programs, art classes and more. An annual Kupuna Health and Safety Fair sponsored by Ewa Weed and Seed has been a popular event for Ewa/Ewa Beach seniors. Ewa Weed and Seed also established a nonprofit community-based development organization which has offered small business training classes and financial literacy classes for the community.

The Weed and Seed program is working; however, we need to continue the efforts to restore neighborhoods and the families that live within. I urge you to support Weed & Seed Hawaii by passing this measure out of Committee.

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

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

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

April 3, 2018

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 HD1 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Kelli Buenconsejo. I am a Public Health Nurse and the Chair of the Waipahu Community Coalition.

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, 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 have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

- I am an avid supporter of Weed and Seed, because I have seen the improvement in my 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've organized graffiti paint outs and participated in beautification projects. They've assisted in creating neighborhood security watches in the most at-risk neighborhoods and have empowered the residents to report illegal activities promptly.
- They work with the 6th graders at Waipahu and Honowai 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 were 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 were instrumental in hosting the first discussions regarding the over representation of Polynesian youth in the Juvenile Justice System. This led to the creation of the Civil Citation program which was implemented in Kalihi to divert first time offenders into a culturally based program instead of into the Juvenile Justice System.
- They are an integral part of the Waipahu Community Coalition and help to provide safe, healthy, drug-free activities for the residents of Waipahu. It is a pleasure working with such dedicated professionals to improve Waipahu and I look forward to working with them in future projects.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued 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.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting HB2051 HD1 SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Kelli L. Buenconsejo, Chair
Waipahu Community Coalition
PO Box 971119
Waipahu, HI 96797

HB-2051-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 1:44:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; the Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HB2051 HD1 SD1**, relating to a Grant; Weed and Seed Strategy; and an appropriation.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **HB2051 HD1 SD1** and supports its passage.

HB2051 HD1 SD1 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it appropriates funds for grants to maintain the weed and seed strategy, which is a collaborative effort to reclaim, restore, and rebuild communities, effective 7/1/2050.

Specifically, the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i provides that "[w]e believe that all families should have an equal opportunity to build their assets and become self-sufficient; and we support a strong safety net of programs that will afford them the opportunity to do so. We must protect our children, our future, from violence and neglect and provide them with a safe and 186 healthy environment in which to grow and thrive. (DPH Platform, P. 4, Lines 184-191 (2016)).

We also support the establishment of adequate mental health and statewide drug rehabilitation programs set up in conjunction with policing policies aimed at enabling all that seek assistance to obtain whatever support assistance is needed to allow them to remain free of drug dependence. (DPH Platform, P. 7, Lines 382-384 (2016)).

We support restorative justice that repairs the harm caused by criminal behaviors and reintegrates the offenders as contributing members of society. Likewise

we support opportunities for those who have been incarcerated to effect a smooth transition back into the community and make available health, educational, and other assistance programs needed to allow them to become productive and respected members of the community. (DPH Platform, P. 5, Lines 273-277 (2016)).

Given that **HB2051 HD1 SD1** appropriates funds for grants to maintain the weed and seed strategy, which is a collaborative effort to reclaim, restore, and rebuild communities, effective 7/1/2050, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889

April 1, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
& Members of the Ways and Means Committee
State Capitol Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB 2051, HD1,SD1 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Maile Kanemaru and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 20 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB 2051,HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, 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 have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

I support Weed and Seed because it has proven to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in the designated communities. The principle by which the program operates are: Community participation, collaboration, coordination and leveraging. The many activities that has been coordinated by Weed and Seed has provided opportunities for community stakeholders to be involved. Over 6,000 volunteers were involved last year, 2017. This includes fund raising efforts for many of the youth programs in the sites.

More importantly, Weed and Seed activities that involve the assigned community policing officers, I think, is in support of Chief Ballard's goal of gaining the public trust in law enforcement. The community has developed a very strong and supportive relationships with the police officers.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued 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.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting HB 2051 HD1 SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Maile Kanemaru, retired, Executive Director – Weed and Seed
94-277 Hokulewa Loop, Mililani Hawaii 96789

April 2, 2018

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Aragan, Vice Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Aragan, and Members of the Committee


RE: HB 2051.HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Florence Nakakuni and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 9 years. I am requesting your support of HB 2051. HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, Ewa and Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative partnership involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and small businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in these communities.

I support Weed and Seed because I have seen it work—here are a few examples—kids getting to know police officers as mentors, coaches, teachers—and this results in building community trust with law enforcement which helps the entire community. I have seen middle and high school students enjoy their summer culinary class at Campbell High School which is sponsored by Weed and Seed and its many partners. In fact, the Weed and Seed Executive Director was instrumental in obtaining the services of a chef from Roy's Restaurant in Ko Olina who has helped with the class for a number of years. I have seen kupuna enjoy the health and safety programs sponsored by Weed and Seed. I have seen the joy on the faces of children during Shop with a Cop programs during the holidays. There's even a program for Kupuna! Weed and Seed also participates in community clean ups, graffiti removal and citizens patrols. So, as you can see, Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this 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.

I urge you to continue supporting Weed and Seed by supporting HB 2051.HD1 SD1 so that we can continue to work with our many partners, to work to ensure the health and safety for those who live, work or worship in these communities.

Sincerely,

Florence Nakakuni
246 Halemaumau Street
Honolulu, HI 96821

HB-2051-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 1:50:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Malia Ikeda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

April 3, 2018

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair & Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

State Capitol Room 211

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 HD1 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Malia-Ann Ikeda and I have been a resident of Ewa Beach for twenty five years. I have seen many changes in the Ewa-Ewa Beach area during this time and feel that Weed and Seed Hawaii plays an integral part in keeping the community I live in a safe place where we can live, work, and play. The efforts of the program not only rebuild our communities but also works with seeding. There are many facets to the program but the one that is most significant to me is the way it is designed to plant the seed to empower our youth.

About five years ago I formed a partnership with Weed and Seed while employed at an elementary school in Ewa Beach. The Weed and Seed Coordinator and the Community Policing Team were always willing to participate in school functions and events. I wanted to be more involved and the opportunity presented itself, and have now served as a Weed and Seed Steering Committee Member for the past three years.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups, and private businesses. I hope that the facets of this program can continue which is why I am reaching out to request your support for HB2051 HD1 SD1. Your support will help to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. I have seen firsthand the impact it has on the Ewa Beach community and this bill will help as

we continue to implement the four strategies of Weed and Seed: Law Enforcement, Community Policing, Prevention/Intervention/Treatment, and Neighborhood Revitalization. Some of the programs in the Ewa Beach community include:

- Speed control measures/Drive Safe Campaign
- Career Day/Read Aloud with area elementary schools
- Kupuna Resource Fair
- Youth Programs (sports, RAP sessions, keiki ID, Bicycle/Skateboard Safety, Culinary Arts)
- Citizen Patrol Walks/Neighborhood Security Watch
- Speak Out Session
- Community Clean Up

Our community continues to grow and programs like those of Weed and Seed Hawaii will ensure it will be a place to thrive. I kindly ask for your consideration in support of HB2051 HD1 SD1 for the Weed and Seed strategy.

Sincerely,

Malia-Ann Ikeda

HB-2051-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 8:08:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Krystal Baba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 HD1 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

April 2, 2018

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 HD1 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is **Albert Somera**

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 HD1 SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, 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 have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

- I am an avid supporter of Weed and Seed, because I have seen the improvement in my 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've organized graffiti paint outs and participated in beautification projects. They've assisted in creating neighborhood security watches in the most at-risk neighborhoods and have empowered the residents to report illegal activities promptly.
- They work with the 6th graders at Waipahu and Honowai 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 were 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 were instrumental in hosting the first discussions regarding the over representation of Polynesian youth in the Juvenile Justice System. This led to the creation of the Civil Citation program, which was implemented in Kalihi to divert first time offenders into a culturally based program instead of into the Juvenile Justice System.
- They are an integral part of the Waipahu Community Coalition and help to provide safe, healthy, drug-free activities for the residents of Waipahu. It is a pleasure working with such dedicated professionals to improve Waipahu and I look forward to working with them in future projects.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource, which needs to be continued. Your continued 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.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting HB2051 HD1 SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Albert Somera
Honolulu Police Department
1100 Waimano Home Road
Pearl City, HI 96782