



## WEED & SEED HAWAII

*A program of the United States Attorney  
District of Hawaii*

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February 23, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051- RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Gale Braceros and I am the Executive Director of Weed and Seed Hawaii. I would like to propose the following amendments:

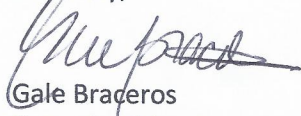
**1). Section 2: To change Department of Public Safety to the Attorney General Office for the purposes of this Act.**

Weed and Seed Hawaii is a program sponsored by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Hawaii. It has been existence for the past 19 years. Weed and Seed Hawaii continues to serve communities of Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu and Ewa- Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii is a bridge between Law Enforcement and the communities we serve through activities and programs, that build a strong partnership working together in planning and implementing strategies to keep our communities safe.

I urge you to please support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting HB2051 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in the community.

Sincerely,



Gale Braceros  
Executive Director  
Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the House Committee on Finance  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Albert Somera and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 3 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 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 strongly support Weed and Seed because of the positive role it plays in the mentoring of the youth in the Waipahu community, and how they actively support our schools, businesses, community events and groups.

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 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

**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 11:23:04 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard K. Minatoya	Maui Department of the Prosecuting Attorney	Support	No

Comments:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, SUPPORTS SB 2051, Relating to the Weed and Seed Strategy. This measure will appropriate funds for much needed grants to maintain the Weed and Seed strategy. The Department requests that this measure be PASSED.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
And Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 308  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and the Members of the Committee:

**RE: HB 2051 – 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 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, Ewa and Ewa Beach.

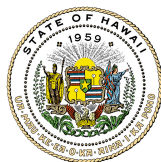
Weed and Seed is a collaborative partnership involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and small businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in these communities.

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 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



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
EWA MAKAI MIDDLE SCHOOL

91-6291 Kapolei Parkway  
Ewa Beach, Hawai'i 96706  
Telephone (808) 687-9500 Fax (808) 685-2052

February 25, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB 2051 [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/CommReports/HB1580\\_HSCR152-16\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/CommReports/HB1580_HSCR152-16_.pdf) –  
RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Kim Sanders and our school, Ewa Makai Middle has been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 7 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB 2051 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.

Weed and Seed Hawaii has been instrumental in keeping our students safe and off the streets. Their programs in Ewa Beach have supported positive engagement and collaboration in making our schools and community safe for everyone. Their program gives our students outstanding role models and training in making good choices. They have also supported our intramural programs and interact with our students through out the school year.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

Kim Sanders,  
Principal, Ewa Makai Middle  
91-6291 Kapolei Parkway, Ewa Beach, HI 96706



**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/25/2018 9:57:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII'**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

11:00 A.M.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 308

RE: Testimony in Support of HB **2051**, RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

To the Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair; the Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Finance:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No. **2051**, relating to a Grant; Weed and Seed Strategy; and an Appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No. **2051** and support its passage.

House Bill No. **2051**, 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..

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 House Bill No. **2051** appropriates funds for grants to maintain the weed and seed strategy, which is a collaborative effort to reclaim, restore, and rebuild communities, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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





First Hawaiian Bank

Ward Branch

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

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

My name is Anna Kobashigawa and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 6 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB 2051 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 have personally seen improvement in the Ewa Beach community as a result of Weed & Seed's neighborhood restoration and clean ups. The condition of the neighborhood impacts the behavior of residents. Well maintained public area hold residents to a higher standard and builds community pride.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

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

Anna M. Kobashigawa  
Assistant Vice President & Branch Manager  
P (808) 593-9948  
Email: [akobashigawa@fhb.com](mailto:akobashigawa@fhb.com)



February 26, 2018

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 316  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: H.B. 2051 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 11:00 a.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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, which appropriates and 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 (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. 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 'Debra'.

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

**McDonald's**

Ewa Beach  
91-919 Fort Weaver Road  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

February 24, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Richard Quiamzon and I am a resident, business member, and a Ewa Weed and Seed steering committee member since 2005.

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

I support Weed and Seed Hawai'i because I have seen firsthand the positive changes Weed and Seed has made in Ewa Beach. Weed and Seed works with the community, and they are the link to resources, partnerships and most of all with law enforcement. We work together to look for solutions and how we all can contribute to keep our community a safer place to live, work and play.

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) as a comprehensive program in improving the quality of life.

Please support HB2051 so we can continue Weed and Seed's efforts in our community.

Sincerely,

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

Richard Quiamzon  
GM, McDonald's Ewa Beach  
91-919 Fort Weaver Road  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

H.B. NO. 2051, RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 27, 2018      **TIME:** 11:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 308

**TESTIFIER(S):** Russell A. Suzuki, First Deputy Attorney General, or  
Julie Ebato, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division  
Administrator

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Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Executive Budget.

With respect to Section 2 we recommend the following, "SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$---- or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 as a grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to maintain the weed and seed program". We also recommend that the funding be expended by the department of the attorney general.

In the last grant, the Department of the Attorney General was designated the expending agency. The grant supported the Weed and Seed Project's community policing strategies; prevention, intervention and treatment activities; and neighborhood restoration. The Weed and Seed Project included and benefited youth, seniors, and neighborhoods in the Weed and Seed sites: Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown, Ewa-Ewa Beach, and Waipahu. This includes but is not limited to: 22 community clean up or graffiti paint outs, 12 community traffic awareness campaigns, 36 citizen patrol and neighborhood security watch groups or training, 146 youths receiving back to school supplies, 18 senior safety presentations (for 488 seniors), 23 Na Alakai Youth Leadership activities (for 445 youth), 2 Town Hall meetings on underaged drinking and

drug use (150 attendees), monthly steering committee meetings focused on capacity building and monitoring ongoing projects, and participation in the Celebrate Safe Communities event at the Leeward Community College.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill with the recommended amendments.

**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/25/2018 12:45:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frances Rivero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Attachment in support of HB2051

February 25, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB 2051 – 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 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 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





**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 12:44:24 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia Ikeda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**02/26/18**

**The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair**

**The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair & Members of the Finance Committee**

**State Capitol Room 308**

**Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

**RE: HB 2051 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY**

**Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,**

**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. 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**

**I kindly ask for your consideration in support of HB2051 for the Weed and Seed strategy.**

**Very Respectfully,**

**Malia-Ann Ikeda**

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the House Committee on Finance  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Rochelle Kalili, a former resident of Waipahu and former member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past nine years.

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

As a parent of 6 children and 5 grandchildren who once lived in Waipahu, my first priority is the safety of my family. Unfortunately, my former home of 20 years, Waipahu, has the stigma of being a bad place to live. While I acknowledge that there are criminal and drug issues, I also know that Waipahu is a safer place to live and work **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 three years ago, they arrested some people for prostitution near where I used to live and recently, arrested two people for distributing crystal meth near a park where children play.

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; people they can trust. 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**. The residents are no longer afraid to call 9-1-1 to ask for help. 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 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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,



Rochelle Kalili  
85-203 McArthur Street  
Waianae, Hawaii 96792

**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 11:58:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gale Mejia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

& Members of the House Committee on Finance

State Capitol Room 308

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Gale Mejia and I am a member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past ten years.

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 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.

Weed and Seed has made a significant difference in the Waipahu community in the following ways:

1. Providing the RAP program at Waipahu and Honowai Elementary Schools that help students make good decisions.
  
1. Mentoring high school students at Waipahu High School through the Na Alaka'i student club to reach out to fellow students in need.
  
1. Supporting safe communities through community policing groups.
  
1. Supporting beautification events that engage community members, both young and old, to take pride in our community.
  
1. Providing consultation and manpower to support family-oriented events such as the annual Christmas Carnival and Song Festival at the Waipahu Town Center, as well as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drug Use and 'Ohana Bingo Night.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

Gale Mejia

91-544 Huleia Place

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

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

My name is Diane Tabangay and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the over 10 years.

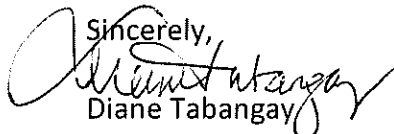
I am appealing for your support of HB 2051 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

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 I have experienced first hand the positive impact Weed and Seed initiatives have on our youth and elderly who are faced with personal challenges that affect their social-emotional, health and over-all wellness. Without the coordinated leadership Weed and Seed provides, the effective community-based initiatives will be challenged to continue.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,  
  
Diane Tabangay  
98-433 Kilihea Way  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

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

My name is Christopher D. Bonilla, principal of Ilima Intermediate School, and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past two years.

I am appealing for your support of HB 2051 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 the Ewa Beach Weed and Seed program, because the HPD officers who work with this program have been instrumental in providing safety walkthroughs of Ilima's campus. The walkthroughs have helped to keep our campus safe. Ilima Intermediate is very thankful for their continued support of Ilima Intermediate's efforts to provide a conducive learning environment for each student.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,



Christopher D. Bonilla  
Principal  
Ilima Intermediate School  
91-884 Fort Weaver Road  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



**LATE**

**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 4:38:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
PeterJohn Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

& Members of the Finance Committee

State Capitol Room 308

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

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

My name is PeterJohn Lee and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 13 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB 2051 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

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. As a parent and a police officer for 27 years, I have seen the positive impact the Weed and Seed programs have made in the youth in my community. 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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

PeterJohn Lee

91-209 Makalauna Place

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

February 27, 2018



The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the House Committee on Finance  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 - 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 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

Kelli L. Buenconsejo, RN PHN  
Waipahu Community Coalition

**LATE**

**HB-2051**

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 8:20:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Derek Bown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

& Members of the House Committee on Finance

State Capitol Room 308

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: HB2051 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

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

I support Weed and Seed because I have worked full time in the Waipahu community for years, I have friends who live here, I volunteer with Weed and Seed, and I see the great things Weed and Seed does for the community.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

Derek Bown, RN, BSN

41-1004 Laumilo St.

Waimanalo, HI 96795

808-392-1653



February 27, 2018

**LATE**

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the House Committee on Finance  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

YOUR NAME:

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

*Colette Oshiro*  
*Concerned Citizen*

DAVID IGE  
GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
WAIPAHU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
94-455 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY  
WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

**LATE**

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the House Committee on Finance  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

RE: HB2051 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Aloha! My name is Randell Dunn and I am the Principal for Waipahu Intermediate School. Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department has been supporting our school for the past 13 years.

I am appealing for your support of HB2051 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 has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in the Waipahu community and has seeded the community with positive activities and education.

Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department have sponsored numerous community-wide events such as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drugs, Waipahu Christmas Parade and Carnival and Waipahu Community Speak Outs. In addition, they have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they have provide. Most importantly, they are supportive of our area schools and have been instrumental in deterring gang related activities on our campus in the past.

Weed and Seed is an integral part of our community. It helps to develop long lasting positive relationships with our youth and their families with law enforcement.

**I urge you to demonstrate your support of Weed and Seed by supporting HB2051.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randell Dunn".

Randell Dunn

Principal

Waipahu Intermediate School

02/26/18

The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
& Members of the Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

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

My name is Mitchell Tynanes and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for many years, I am a lifelong residents of Ewa Beach, President of the TCLT Community Association, Chair of the Ewa Neighborhood Board, Gentry Master Community Association BOD, Chair of Community Restoration for the Ewa Beach Lions Club Foundation, James Campbell High School Alumni Foundation BOD, and President of the Pig Hunters Association.

I am appealing for your support of HB 2051 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 is vital part of our community for many years that brought that missing connection between HPD our Keiki's, Kupuna and community. Weed and Seed Provide programs that keep our Keiki's engage and involved in our community. Its builds trust and a open communication with HPD and others.

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 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Mahalo,

Mitchell Tynanes  
91-3074 Makalea Loop  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706