

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



KATHRYN MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – LEEWARD DISTRICT
ILIMA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
91-884 FORT WEAVER ROAD
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706
Office- (808)-687-9300
Fax- (808)- 689-1258

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/CommReports/HB1580_HSCR152-16_.pdf –
RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Christopher D. Bonilla, and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past one and a half years.

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 the 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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris D. Bonilla".

Christopher D. Bonilla
Principal
Ilima Intermediate School

Kaimiloa Elementary School
91-1028 Kaunolu Street
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: February 6, 2017

TO: State Capitol
ATTENTION: Senator Nishihara
FAX NUMBER: 586-6879

FROM: Shely Chang
School Counselor
Kaimiloa Elementary

SUBJECT: Support of Weed and Seed Bill

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 2

COMMENTS:

If you have any problems receiving this document or do not receive the indicated amount of pages, please do not hesitate to call **689-1280**.

This communication is intended only for the use of the person or program named above and may contain confidential information. If you have received this information in error please notify us immediately. Thank you!

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KAIMILOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
91-1028 KAUNOLU STREET
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs

State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/CommReports/HB1580_HSCR152-16_.pdf – RELATING TO
THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Shely Chang and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 12 years.

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 they have supported us (Kaimiloa Elementary) in many of our community activities. The Weed and Seed Program has always been there to help with our schools annual career day as well as any community concerns we have had regarding the safety of our students and school.

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Shely Chang in black ink.

Shely Chang

Kaimiloa Elementary School Counselor
91-1028 Kaunolu Street
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



February 6, 2017

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol, Room 204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: S.B. 131 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Hearing: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:30 p.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Debbie Luning, Community Relations Director for Gentry Homes and a member of the Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am testifying in **strong support** of S.B. 131, which appropriates funds 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 your support of S.B. 131.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 4, 2017 1:12 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: jamesjtz@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB131 on Feb 7, 2017 13:20PM

SB131

Submitted on: 2/4/2017

Testimony for PSM on Feb 7, 2017 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Gauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: 500 community members participated in the 2015 Honolulu Citizens Police Academy. Violent and property related crimes have been decreasing since 2006 according to FBI uniform crime reports.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Frances Rivero
C/O Weed & Seed Ewa
91-884 Fort Weaver Rd. Suite A
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Phone: (808) 689-4182
Fax: (808) 689-0625
E-mail:
francesrivero4@gmail.com

facsimile transmittal

To:	Senator Nishihara	Fax:	(808) 586-6879
From:	Frances Rivero	Date:	2/6/2017
Re:	Bill SB131	Pages:	2
Cc:			

Urgent For review Please comment Please reply Please recycle

Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2017.

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Frances Rivero and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 13 years.

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 believe in the Weed & Seed's mission and what it represents the Ewa Beach Community.

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,



Frances Rivero
91-268 Ewa Beach Rd.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

State Capitol Room 229

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

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

I am appealing for your support of SB131 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 provided at risk children with resources to better themselves. Educational programs involve children learning leadership skills, interpersonal skills development, and community service.

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Kevin Ancog

1100 Waimano Home Road

Pearl City HI 96782

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Ruth Samuel and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 5 years.

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 as a steering committee member of Site I witnessed firsthand how Weed and Seed work together with Honolulu Police Department, businesses, schools, faith-based organizations, government agencies and other organizations to provide excellent services for our communities.

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,
Ruth Samuel
808- 226-5080
ruth.samuel001@yahoo.com

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Malia-Ann Ikeda and I am a resident of Ewa Beach for over twenty years. I have previously partnered with Weed and Seed in community events and have been a Steering Committee Member for Site III for the past two years.

I support Weed and Seed because the organization works closely with all levels in my community. It's 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 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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Malia-Ann Ikeda
91-1186 Kuhaimona Pl.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Kelle Shodahl and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 6 years.

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 although I am a resident of Ewa Beach I was not too familiar of the difference resources Gale Bracerros, Program Director reached out to me and in partnership the parents of my students now volunteer at community clean ups that Weed and Seed host, they learned how to give back to the community, our community. My preschool became part of their Adopt a School Program where the Officers do school visits to talk to the students about safety. They helped us to develop an evacuation plan and hooked us on the Campbell Complex for emergency situations. It is such a joy to see how the children run up to the Officers when they visit.

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,



Kelle Shodahl, Director
91-679 Ft. Weaver Road, Ewa Beach
808-682-0010

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Shaunna Okuda and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 8 years.

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 as the chairperson of the Site I Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan Steering Committee, I have had the good fortune of being able to see firsthand how Weed and Seed has been involved in our community. Residents and businesses are willing to join citizen patrol groups and are willing to talk about what is going on in their area. Weed and Seed has been involved in our community by coordinating community events, programs and community clean ups. They build and connect law enforcement with the community to work as a team. I see a huge difference in our communities

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,



Shaunna Okuda
Site I Steering Committee Chairperson



February 5, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
State Capitol, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

Re: SB131- RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB 131 to sustain Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa- Ewa Beach. My name is Darryl Shinogi and I am an Executive Chef, I have been involved with Weed and Seed, Site III for the past 5 years.

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 5 years ago I was invited to be a guest chef instructor at Ewa Weed and Seed Culinary Arts Summer Program. It took me just one visit to see the excellent partnership they built with James Campbell High School but most importantly the students. Seeing how they interact with Officers and learning the art of cooking I became their main instructor for the past 5 years. Volunteering my time to do this is rewarding because it allows me to give back to our communities. The Culinary Arts program is well known because I was approached to do this at a school on the Leeward side. Ms. Bracerros quickly helped me with her curriculum and helped me put together a smaller version of their program. Weed and Seed provides many other programs that allow the kids to explore and learn and making positive choices.

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 SB 131 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 "Darryl Shinogi", written over a white background.

Darryl Shinogi
Executive Chef
Roy's Ko Olina

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Aloha. My name is George Yakowenko and I have been a volunteer for the Harbor View Neighborhood Security Watch group for the past 27 years. I feel that it is important for the residents to become active in helping keep their neighborhood safe. The police are not staffed sufficiently to provide full protection to the residents.

I am appealing for your support SB131 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 been an active participant in the Waipahu Weed & Seed Program for over 16 years. I have seen firsthand the results which have greatly reduced the crime rates and have observed the restoration of the community by bringing together many residents, businesses and organizations to revitalize our community.

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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,



George Yakowenko
94-260 Kipou St.
Waipahu, HI 96797
Proud Waipahu Resident for 34 years

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support of SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

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 eight years.

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 22 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 SB131 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

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/CommReports/HB1580_HSCR152-16_.pdf – 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 SB131 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.

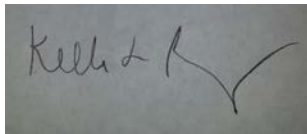
- I am an avid supporter of Weed and Seed, because I have seen the improvement in my community through decreased crime and increased community awareness of illegal activities. They have realized that crime prevention must start at a younger age and they work with elementary, intermediate and high school 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 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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to read "Kelli L. Buenconsejo" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kelli L. Buenconsejo, RN PHN
187 Kilea Place
Wahiawa, HI 96786

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB 131 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Mary Jean Castillo and I am the Vice Chair for Weed & Seed Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for eleven (12) years.

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.

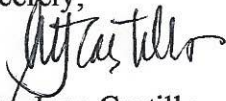
I support Weed & Seed because it is a holistic approach to treat the epidemic disease in our society.

Weed and Seed is an important strategy and community resource which has to become **permanently ingrained** in our community. As a public servant and community leader, you have the responsibility to ensure the safety, health and welfare of the community/general public. Therefore your continued support of this important initiative will show your compassion, dedication and commitment to the people of Hawaii.

Hawaii is still one of the best places to live and visit because we all work together to keep it safe!

I urge you to support SB131 so Weed and Seed can continue its mission.

Sincerely,



Mary Jean Castillo
Publisher
Hawaii's Most Wanted Magazine
Drug Abuse & Crime Prevention Magazine
P.O. Box 37063
Honolulu, HI 96837
(808) 979-5490

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
State Capitol Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB131 – RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support of SB131 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is John Kauwenaole. I am a resident of Waipahu, former Waipahu business owner and retired Honolulu Police Department Sergeant.

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 their diligent efforts to improve the targeted communities. I was the original HPD Sergeant assigned to work with Weed & Seed when it was first introduced to Hawai'i. During my tenure, we were successful in decreasing criminal activity in Chinatown and Kalihi. Through the relationships that we developed with the community, we were also successful at identifying gang members and getting the residents to take back their neighborhoods.

As a resident and former business owner in Waipahu, 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 which needs to be continued. Your continued support 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 SB131 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,



John Kauwenaole

Address