

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
1177 Alakea Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

EDMUND "FRED" HYUN
CHAIR

JOYCE K. MATSUMORI-HOSHIJO
MICHAEL A. TOWN
ANNELLE C. AMARAL
FITUINA F. TUA
MEMBERS

TOMMY JOHNSON
ADMINISTRATOR

No. _____

LATE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1347, SD1
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY
BY
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman

House Committee on Judiciary
Representative Chris Lee, Chair
Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

Monday, March 11, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) supports Senate Bill 1347, SD1 relating to the Weed and Seed Strategy. This bill will continue to allow the various stakeholders to maintain the efforts of the weed and seed program and reduce recidivism.

Over the years the program has played a significant role in reducing crime in historically troubled neighborhoods. Community leaders have worked together with various agencies to revitalize and improve the quality of life for residents.

Inmates released on parole, who return to these weed and seed communities benefit by having family support, police presence, and less criminal activity in the neighborhood which increases their chances for successful reintegration back into the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 1347, SD1.

SB-1347-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 4:51:08 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
	Major Darren Izumo representing the Honolulu Police Department	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-1347-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 2:08:13 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

LATE



March 11, 2019

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
State House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: S.B. 1347, S.D. 1 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Hearing: Monday, March 11, 2019; 2:00 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Debbie Luning, Community Relations Director for Gentry Homes and a member of Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am testifying in **strong support** of S.B. 1347, S.D. 1, which appropriates funds to maintain the Weed & Seed program.

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 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. 1347, S.D. 1.

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

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the on Judiciary

Monday, March 11.2019
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and Members of the Committees on Judiciary.

RE: SB1347 SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Maile Kanemaru and I am the retired Director of Weed and Seed Hawaii. I have been involved with the weed and Seed Program for the last 20 years.

I am requesting your support of SB1347 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 the mentioned communities.

I support Weed and Seed because it has motivated residents to get involved to make their communities safe. Volunteers participate in cleanup projects, prevention programs for youth, and safety programs for senior citizens. The program has been able to leverage resources from various businesses and organizations, as well as sponsoring an Annual Legacy luncheon to raise funds to support Weed and Seed. Community participation is a key element to empower residents to work with law enforcement in addressing safety concerns.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your 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 SB1347 SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,



Maile Kanemaru,
Retired Director, Weed and Seed

94-277 Hokulewa Loop
Mililani, Hawaii 96789



First Hawaiian Bank

Ward Branch

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Monday, March 11, 2019
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and the Committee on Judiciary:

RE: SB1347. SD 1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Anna M. Kobashigawa and I am the branch manager at First Hawaiian Bank's Ward Branch. I have been an active member of Weed and Seed since 2012.

I am requesting your support of SB1347. SD 1 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 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 SB1347.SD 1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Anna M. Kobashigawa
Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager
P (808) 593-9948
Fax (808) 593-9045
Email: akobashigawa@fhb.com

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Kaipo Paiva and I am a police officer with the Honolulu Police Department. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for almost 10 years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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 they help to build and strengthen relationships in our community. Since 2010, I have been assigned to the District 3 Community Policing Team. Prior to that, I did not have any experience with Weed and Seed or Community Policing.

I have seen the impact Weed and Seed has had on the Waipahu community. Because of Weed and Seed's efforts, I have seen better relationships between police officers and the community, increased community participating in community events and a reduction of crime in general.

Prior to Weed and Seed, Waipahu was a very troubled community. Gangs, drugs and crime were common factors in the Weed and Seed areas in Waipahu. There was very little trust between the community members and the police and because of that, crimes were not reported. After Weed and Seed's efforts, relationships were forged between the police and the youth, community members and Waipahu businesses have assisted in the reduction of crime and the increase in participation in community enhancement events.

In just ten years, I have seen an amazing transformation in the Waipahu community. I can communicate freely with residents and work with Waipahu's community council members, representatives and senators to help remedy current community issues.

I am a testament to the work Weed and Seed does in their community. Not only have they supported me in building more relationships in our community, they have opened my eyes and other officers' eyes on the value of relationship with our community and how to work with our community toward the common goals of prosperity, safety and peace.

Through Weed and Seed, I have learned to talk "with" people and not "to" them. Find solutions, not problems. Leverage relationships but do not take advantage of them. And most important, be resilient and never give up.

I have seen firsthand what Weed and Seed has created in the last 10 years. I cannot predict what amazing results Weed and Seed will produce in the next year, but I choose to support them because I know what our community looks like without their work. The value in Weed and Seed is not only about

the results we can see on paper but the lives they have changed because of the continued relationships they have created. Weed and Seed reveals the beauty in every community so much, I moved into the one I work with so I could continue to be a part of the great changes. Weed and Seed shows the community that you don't have to move to an "ideal" community, but you can help to create it with the one you already live in.

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 SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Anson Paiva
94-1028 Kalulu Loop
Waipahu HI 96797



March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Monday, March 11, 2019

2:00 p.m.

State Capitol Room 325

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and the Committee on Judiciary:

RE: SB1347. SD 1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Darryl Shinog, Executive Chef of Roy's Ko' Olina. I have been involved with Weed and Seed, Site III for the past 6 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai`i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project 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 Hawaii because I have been involved with Site III- Ewa –Ewa Beach Weed and Seed for the past 6 years. 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 the students interact with Officers and learning the art of cooking it is and still an honor to be their main instructor for the past 6 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. Braceros did not hesitate to help me put together a smaller version of their program. As she shared, this is what Weed and Seed is all about, providing programs for our youths, to provide opportunities for them to make positive choices and to keep them away from illegal activities. 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 SB1347.SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,
Darryl Shinogi, Executive Chef
Roy's Ko'Olina

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Susan Moniz, a resident of Waipahu and a member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past eleven years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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.

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

- 1) Reduced the truancy in public schools. The Weed and Seed officers show a genuine concern for the children by their visibility and hands-on training of the youth.
- 2) Under-privileged adults from our diverse community consisting of Micronesian, Chuukese, Samoan, Tongan, Filipino, etc. are given a chance to attend Computer and Sewing Center classes on improving their family's lives and finding ways to be a productive member of the community.
- 3) After the "Weeding", Weed and Seed sustained, through its maintenance and diligence, a positive, safe community through graffiti paint out and community clean ups.

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 SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Susan P. Moniz
94-534 Awamoi Street
Waipahu HI 96797

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the
Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Hercules Huihui and I have been a resident of Waipahu for 26 years. I have been involved with
Weed and Seed Waipahu since its inception in 2000.

I am appealing for your support of SB 1347, 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 I have seen firsthand how it has benefited our community. When there
was drug dealing happening in the Pupu area, I worked closely with the Weed & Seed officers to shut down
the drug lab kitty corner to my home. Since then, I have continued to volunteer my time in the community
by serving on various community boards. I am currently the Chair of the Steering Committee, an advisory
board to the Waipahu Weed & Seed site.

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 SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to
ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

Hercules Huihui
94-335 Pupuole Street Apt. 1
Waipahu HI 96797

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is John Kauwenaole. I am a resident of Waipahu, former Waipahu business owner and retired Honolulu Police Department Sergeant.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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 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 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 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

John Kauwenaole
Waipahu HI 96797

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Albert Somera and I am a community supporter of Weed and Seed Hawaii. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii for the past 3 years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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 of the important partnership we have with them in serving our youth and underprivileged in our community. They have made a positive impact with many youth programs and community events that they coordinate and are a part of.

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 SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Sergeant Albert Somera
1100 Waimano Home Road
Pearl City, HI 96782
723-8819

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Gayleen Balais and I am a Recreation Director with the Project Ho'omana Program under the City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation, which provides services to the youth in the Waipahu community. It's been an honor and a privilege to have been working with the Coordinators and Officers for Weed and Seed for 19 years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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 they have been an integral part in making the Waipahu community a better and safer community for our youth, adult and seniors to live. They have afforded our community residents with various resources to better enrich their lives and daily living. They understand the "needs" of the community and thus, has created a very strong working relationship/partnership with various community groups, businesses and organizations. Project Ho'omana has been very fortunate to have been working with Weed and Seed for 19 years. Their support and resources to my program have been innumerable and beneficial to all individuals in our program. My partnership with Weed and Seed has been a blessing to myself on a professional and personal level. Not only do I work in the Waipahu community, I am also a proud resident of the Waipahu community. Through their efforts, I have seen many positive changes and am very happy that the Waipahu community has been provided with such a rich community resource like Weed and Seed.

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 strongly urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Gayleen Balais
Recreation Director, Dept. of Parks & Recreation
94-230 Paiwa Street, Waipahu HI 96797

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - 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 requesting your support of SB 1347, 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.

As a parent of 6 children and 4 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 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 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Kalili
94-465 Waipahu St, Waipahu HI 96797

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Barbara Tom. I am a retired Public Health Nurse and currently volunteers as the Coordinator for the Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for over 18 years while working in Waipahu as a Public Health Nurse.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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 without their support the Waipahu Immigrant and Resource Center would not be possible. They are a key partner in providing us the ability to seed the community with positive promotion activities such as Adult Education, after school tutorials, job readiness programs, access to health insurance and a voice for the community in the Pupuole area.

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 SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Barbara Tom RN
Aiea Resident

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Monday, March 11, 2019
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and the Committee on Judiciary:

RE: SB1347. SD 1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Florence Nakakuni and I live in Honolulu and worked in downtown Honolulu until my retirement in 2017.

I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii for the past 10 years that I served as the U.S. Attorney for Hawaii and I have continued my involvement as a Board Member. I am requesting your support of SD1347. SD1 to sustain the Weed and Seed Hawaii program in Kalihi-Palama- Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, Ewa-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 these 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 James 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 an Executive Chef of Roy's Restaurant in Ko Olina who 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 faces of children at many of the other excellent youth mentoring programs, even the Kupuna! Weed and Seed also participates and help coordinate community clean ups, graffiti removal and citizen 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 Hawaii by supporting SB 1347.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, Hawaii. 96821

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Monday, March 11, 2019
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and the Committee on Judiciary:

RE: SB1347. SD 1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Roland Pagan and I am a Police Officer and a Resident of Ewa Beach for 20 years. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for 12 years.

I am requesting your support of SB1347. 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 I have had the honor and privilege of working alongside the officers as well as community members who support these programs. I have been fortunate enough to see the many changes that have come to the Ewa Beach community because of the programs directed not only at the youth in the community, but the efforts made in crime prevention and education. The availability of officers, involved community members and the partners of Weed and Seed have eased many concerns of the numerous schools and organizations that call Ewa Beach home. The relationships built by the youth of the community with the Officers of HPD and the Weed and Seed detail have provided many benefits to these kids that may not have had the opportunity to sit next to and discuss the many issues that concern them at these vulnerable ages. The relationships that the youth of these communities have been able to make with the officers involved with the many Weed and Seed programs can and have proven to, make a big difference in a lot of their lives.

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 SB1347.SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,
Roland Pagan
91-1137 Hoowalea St., Ewa Beach HI. 96706

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

RE: SB 1347, SD1 - 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 eleven years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347, 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.

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.
- 2) Mentoring high school students at Waipahu High School through the Na Alaka'i student club to reach out to fellow students in need.
- 3) Supporting safe communities through community policing groups.
- 4) Supporting beautification events that engage community members, both young and old, to take pride in our community.
- 5) 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 SB 1347, SD1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Gale Mejia
Ewa Beach Resident

SB-1347-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 10:18:13 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Monday, March 11, 2019
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and the Committee on Judiciary:

RE: SB1347. SD 1 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Frances Rivero and I live in Ewa Beach for more than fifty years. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii for more than 14 years and believe in its mission and support its efforts for the betterment of the community

I am requesting your support of SB1347. SD 1 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 Hawai'i, Inc.'s submission of their request, it 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 that will ensure community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

Weed and Seed is 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 SB1347.SD 1 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.

Sincerely,

Frances Rivero
91-268 Ewa Beach Road
Ewa Beach Hawaii 96706

SB-1347-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 12:07:59 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-1347-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:23:02 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: