



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 1347, RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Thursday, February 28, 2019 **TIME:** 10:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): Clare E. Connors, Attorney General, or
Dawn Martin, Grants & Planning Specialist, Crime Prevention and
Justice Assistance Division

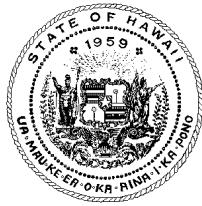
Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

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.

The Weed and Seed Project provides community policing strategies; prevention, intervention and treatment activities; and neighborhood restoration through collaboration between federal, state and county law enforcement agencies, social service agencies, and private businesses. This is an effort to prevent and address crime and rebuild communities in targeted areas. Past Weed and Seed Projects engaged and benefited youth, seniors, and neighborhoods in the Weed and Seed sites of Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown, Ewa Beach, and Waipahu. Activities included but were not limited to: community clean-up events, graffiti paint-outs, community traffic awareness campaigns, citizen patrol and neighborhood security watch groups or training, the provision of back-to-school supplies for youth, senior safety presentations, youth leadership activities, Town Hall meetings on underage drinking and drug use, and participation in the Celebrate Safe Communities event.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill.

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. _____

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

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 28, 2019; 10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

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

The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) supports Senate Bill 1347 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.

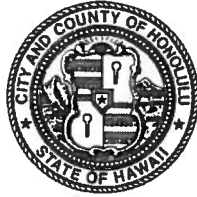
Over the years the program has played a significant role in reducing crime in historically troubled neighborhoods. Community leaders have worked together with various agencies to revitalize and improve the quality of life for residents.

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.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu.org



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

JOHN D. McCARTHY
JONATHAN GREMS
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE DI-MK

February 28, 2019

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members
Committee on Ways and Means
State Senate
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 1347, Relating to the Weed and Seed Strategy

I am Major Darren Izumo of District 5 (Kalihi) of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 1347, Relating to the Weed and Seed Strategy. This bill will provide funding for Weed and Seed Hawaii to maintain the Weed and Seed strategy.

As an original partner in the Weed and Seed program, the HPD recognizes the benefits of the program in reducing crime and revitalizing areas, thus improving the quality of life for people who live and work in Weed and Seed designated communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

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Darren Izumo, Major
District 5

APPROVED:

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Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

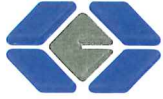
SB-1347

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 6:41:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



February 26, 2019

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

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

Decision Making Hearing: Thursday, February 28, 2019; 10:30 am;
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

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

My name is Debbie Luning, Community Relations Director for Gentry Homes and a member of Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am testifying in **strong support** of S.B. 1347, 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 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.

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

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

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



HASEKO DEVELOPMENT, INC.

February 28, 2019

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

RE: SB1347 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee on Ways & Means,

My name is Sharene Saito Tam and I am the Vice President for Haseko Development, Inc. in 'Ewa Beach. My company and I have been involved with Weed and Seed for more than 15 years. I am requesting your support of SB1347 to sustain the Weed and Seed program because I have seen the positive effects Weed and Seed has had on the 'Ewa/'Ewa Beach community.

This collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses has helped reduce both violent and drug-related crimes, as well as inspire community pride. The truancy rate at area schools has fallen significantly since Weed and Seed came to 'Ewa Beach. Weed and Seed officers help residents and students organize citizen patrols to walk neighborhood streets, and their partnerships with community members has helped to paint out graffiti and clean up neighborhood parks. In addition, officers provide valuable life skills and job training via "seeding" efforts such as the summer culinary arts program. By having Weed and Seed officers working hand in hand with residents, students and businesses, residents are inspired to work together to keep our community safe.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource that needs to be continued. **I urge you to demonstrate your support for Weed and Seed by voting in favor of SB1347** to ensure that community leaders and partners can continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that works toward preventing crime and growing a strong, healthy and safe community.

Sincerely,

Sharene Saito Tam
Vice President
Haseko Development, Inc.



February 26, 2019

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means

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

Sincerely,

Darryl Shinogi, Executive Chef



Ward Branch

February 26, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means

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

My name is Anna Kobashigawa. I am the branch manager for First Hawaiian Bank's Ward Branch. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 6 years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347 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 SB 1347 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 M. Kobashigawa".

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

February 26, 2019

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

State Capitol Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committees on Judiciary & Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

RE: SB1347 - 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 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 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

February 26, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means:

RE: SB1347 - 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 SB1347 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 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 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 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

February 26, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means:

RE: SB1347 - 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 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 along side 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 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

February 26, 2019

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

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means,

My name is Malia-Ann Ikeda and I have been a resident of Ewa Beach for twenty six years. I have seen many changes in the Ewa-Ewa Beach area during this time and feel that partnerships have been an integral part in keeping my community a safe place to live and thrive. I am requesting your support for the Weed and Seed Project in the Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach sites.

I first formed a partnership with Weed and Seed when I worked at an elementary school in Ewa Beach. The Program Director and Community Policing Team were always willing to participate in school functions and events. I wanted to be more involved with this organization and the Steering Committee allowed me the opportunity. I have served as a Weed and Seed Steering Committee Member for the past four years and was recently appointed as their secretary.

I support Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. because I have seen firsthand the impact it has on the Ewa Beach community. This grant 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 Ups

I kindly ask for your consideration in supporting SB 1347 so that Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. will continue to have an active presence in my community.

Very Respectfully,

Malia-Ann Ikeda

91-1186 Kuhaimoana Place

Ewa Beach, HI 96706-4502

February 28, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means

RE: SB 1347 - 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 SB 1347 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 SB 1347 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

February 28, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means

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

My name is Diane Tabangay and I am a program executive for one of Hawaii's oldest and largest youth/community serving non-profits. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for over 10 years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347 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 the leadership in coordinating and bridging connections, safe community initiatives such those effectively led by Weed and Seed, would not happen. The unique work that Weed and Seed does connects law enforcement and those who live, work, learn and play in our most vulnerable communities. The end results have been tremendous!

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

Sincerely,

Diane Tabangay, M.Ed.
98-443 Kilihea Way
Aiea, Hawaii 96701
(808) 226-0179

February 28, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means,

RE: SB 1347 - 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 requesting your support of SB 1347 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

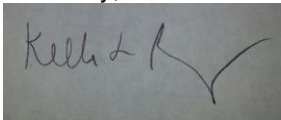
Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

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

Sincerely,

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to read "Kelli L. Buenconsejo".

Kelli L. Buenconsejo, RN PHN

February 28, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means

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

My name is Mitchell Tynanes and I am a life-long resident of Ewa Beach . I have been involved with Weed and Seed for many years.

I am requesting your support of SB 1347 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 a vital role in our community that brings a safe healthy environment for our keikis to go and be involved with our law offices. Weed and Seed brings all walks of life in our community together for one common goal. The betterment and safety of our Keikis , Kupunas and our community..

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

Sincerely,

Mitchell M. Tynanes
91-3074 Makalea Loop
Ewa Beach Hi 96706



McDonald's

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

February 27, 2019

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means

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

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

I am requesting your support of SB 1347 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.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool community resource which needs to be continued. **I urge you to support Weed and Seed by supporting SB 1347 so that we can continue to ensure for the safety of all stakeholders in these communities.**

Sincerely,

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

SB-1347

Submitted on: 2/27/2019 9:52:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

February 28, 2019

LATE

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means,

RE: SB 1347 - 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 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 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