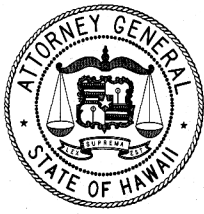




SB2182

Measure Title:	RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY.
Report Title:	Grants; Weed and Seed Strategy; Appropriation (\$)
Description:	Appropriates funds for grants to maintain and expand the weed and seed strategy, which is a collaborative effort to reclaim, restore, and rebuild communities. Appropriates funds.
Companion:	HB1580
Package:	None
Current Referral:	PSM/JDL, WAM
Introducer(s):	ESPERO, DELA CRUZ, NISHIHARA, Baker, Slom



TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2016

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2182, RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY.

BEFORE THE:

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS, AND ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

DATE: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 **TIME:** 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

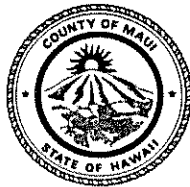
TESTIFIER(S): Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or
Lance M. Goto, Deputy Attorney General

Chairs Nishihara and Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees:

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 Department respectfully recommends one amendment be made to the bill.

The bill provides funding to the Department to support the Weed and Seed strategy. In order to expedite the contracting process, the Department requests that the bill be amended to provide that funds be appropriated as a grant to Empower Oahu pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, with the Department designated as the expending agency. Empower Oahu is currently implementing the Weed and Seed efforts on Oahu.

The Department respectfully request the passage of this measure with the suggested amendments.



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
150 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
PHONE (808) 270-7777 • FAX (808) 270-7625

CONTACT: PETER HANANO
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Appellate, Asset Forfeiture and Administrative Services Division

TESTIMONY
ON
SB 2182 - RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara
Chair
The Honorable Will Espero
Vice Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Chair
The Honorable Maile L. Shimabukuro
Vice Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Chairs Nishihara and Keith-Agaran, Vice Chairs Espero and Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, SUPPORTS SB 2182 - Relating to the Weed and Seed Strategy. SB 2182 appropriates funds to support and implement the "Weed and Seed" program.

This program is vital to the State of Hawaii. It has proven to be a very effective tool for not only law enforcement, but also the community in general. The program assists law enforcement in dealing with problem areas by assisting entire communities to reclaim and rebuild crime ridden areas. Accordingly, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, SUPPORTS the passage of this bill.

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

February 8, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara and Chair Keith-Agaran,
Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 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 (11) 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.

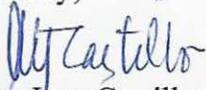
I support Weed & Seed because it is a holistic approach to treat the epidemic disease in our society.

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 and the people you serve. Therefore your 100% 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its mission.

Sincerely,



Mary Jean Castillo
Publisher/Founder
Drug Abuse & Crime Prevention Magazine
1116 Fort Street Mall
Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 979-5490



WEED & SEED

*A program of the United States Attorney's Office
District of Hawaii*

February 10,, 2016

*Weed & Seed Hawaii
P. O. Box 894656
Mililani, Hawaii 96789*

(808)664-0910

Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Chair: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara; Vice-Chair Senator Will Espero

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Chair: Gilbert S.C. Keith -Agaran; Vice - Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
Notice of Hearing: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 Conference Room 016
State Capitol

Dear Chairs and Members:

RE: SB 2182 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRAGETY

Hearing Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 8:30 am - Conference Room 016

My name is Maile Kanemaru and I am current the Director of Weed and Seed. I am testifying in support of SB 2182

Weed and Seed is a Program sponsored by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Hawaii. We have been in existence for the past 18 years. Weed and Seed was a Program of the Department of Justice from 1991 - 2012. Although no longer part of DOJ, the communities of Kalihi/Palama/Chinatown, Waipahu and Ewa/Ewa Beach continue to support the Weed and Seed Programs and participate in many of the activities.

The four components of Weed and Seed are 1) law enforcement 2) Community Policing 3) Prevention/Intervention and Treatment/ and 4) Neighborhood restoration (which includes community blight and education)

The principles by which we operate are: Community participation, Coordination (avoid duplication), Collaboration (no one entity can do it alone) and leveraging (many resources are needed to keep a community safe.)

Weed and Seed has been the bridge between law enforcement and community. Through the Weed and Seed activities, the police officers and residents have become partners in working together in planning and implementing strategies in keeping their community safe.

Each community has a Steering Committee made up of volunteers who meet monthly that in 2015, provided 2,304 hours of advisory support. This has resulted in a value of \$51,056.

Through the four Weed and Seed components, stakeholders take an active role in clean up campaigns and community activities and events rather than rely on government or other entities to keep their neighborhoods safe and clean. In 2015 a total of 10,425 volunteers put in 1,981 hours for a value of \$6,050,000. Most of the properties for clean ups and graffiti paint outs are government properties. A total of \$67,563 were also solicited as in kind goods and services.

The Weed and Seed Program certainly has great value to this community. Thank you for the opportunity to testify

Site 1: Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan / Site 2: Waipahu / Site 3: Ewa-Ewa Beach



February 5, 2016

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair, and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair, and Members,
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: S.B. 2182 RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Dear Chairs Nishihara and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

I am Debbie Luning, Community Relations Director for Gentry Homes and a member of the Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am writing this letter in **strong support** of S.B. 2182 which appropriates \$400,000 to maintain and expand the Weed and 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 this measure.

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Luning', is placed above the printed name.

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



Louis Pohl Gallery
1142 Bethel St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 521-1812
www.louispohlgallery.com

Date: 2-6-2016

To: The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

RE: Support SB 2182 RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I support SB 2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Sandra Pohl and I am a business owner and resident of downtown Chinatown_. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Chinatown for 8 years as a volunteer citizen, active member of the Arts District Merchants Association and President of the Creative Arts Experience.

Weed and Seed has been an important effort in helping the arts district Chinatown. The program has helped organize residents and businesses to work together by providing resources, knowledge and leadership. Their effort has made a significant difference.

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. It is an effective tool to bring together the community resources to weed the criminal elements and seed by helping collaborations that work together to bring the Chinatown downtown to clean and safe neighborhood that has vibrancy.

I urge you to please support SB 2182.

Sincerely,

SANDRA POHL

Sandra Pohl
Owner

TESTIMONY

**The Libertarian Party of Hawaii
c/o 1658 Liholiho St #205
Honolulu, HI 96822**

RE: SB 2182 to be heard Wednesday February 10, at 8:30 AM in conference room 016

OPPOSE

To the Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary”

Weed and seed is an abusive and counterproductive element in the failing war on drugs. It should be terminated along with most the other failed policies. New harm reduction approaches that might have some positive effects should be turned to.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Ryan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tracy Ryan, Chair

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Gale Mejia and I am a member of the Waipahu Steering Committee and Chair of the Waipahu Community Coalition. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past seven years.

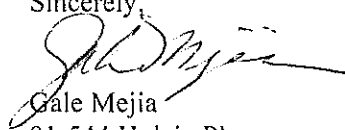
Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

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, anti-bullying presentations and community meetings on the negative impact of drinking and drugs on our youth.
- 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 Historic Tour of Waipahu.

A recent evaluation has shown a steady decline in juvenile crime in Waipahu thanks to the efforts of Weed & Seed and other community partners. **I urge you to demonstrate your support of Weed and Seed by supporting SB2182.**

Sincerely,



Gale Mejia
91-544 Huleia Place
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



McDonald's® of Ewa Beach

91-919 Fort Weaver Road · Ewa Beach, HI 96706 · Phone 808.689.8787

February 6, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee.

Re: SB 2182 - RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB 2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. My name is Richard Quiamzon and I am a member of the Ewa Weed and Seed. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii for the past 9 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 have seen firsthand the positive changes Weed and Seed accomplished since designated 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 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 please support SB 2182.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Quiamzon", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Richard Quiamzon
Steering Committee Chairperson
General Manager, McDonald's of Ewa Beach

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-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 six 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.

As a parent of 6 children and 3 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 and 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.

We need Weed & Seed to continue in our communities. Please demonstrate your support of Weed & Seed by supporting SB2182.

Sincerely,



Rochelle Kalili
Parent Community Networking Center
94-465 Waipahu Street
Waipahu HI 96797



Meadow Gold Dairies



Written Testimony by: Glenn Muranaka
SB2182, Weed and Seed Strategy
Sen PSM/JDL, Weds. Feb. 10, 2016 – 8:30 am
Room 016
Position: Support

Chairs Nishihara and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate PSM/JDL Committees:

My name is Glenn Muranaka, President and General Manager of Meadow Gold Dairies. Our company has been in Hawaii since 1897—119 years, providing Hawaii consumers with a variety of milk products and juices. Meadow Gold's long history has not come without effort. We continually adapt to our customers' and consumers' ever-changing needs, and we constantly evolve along with our industry, our community and our market. Over the years, this has required that we struggle, tighten our belts, innovate and work extremely hard, making us a better company in the process. The foundation of this work rests with the 330 employees that are committed to providing superior quality products.

We strongly support the program and believe that it is an effective program that does "weed" out criminal elements in targeted communities. Through partnerships with human service organizations as well as businesses and residents, the program plants "seeds" for neighborhood revitalization projects and activities.

We recognize that funding requests are very difficult in these economic times. However, the collaboration model suggested among the county, state, federal agencies and the private sector can only enhance a successful and needed program.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 944-5911.



First Hawaiian Bank

Ward Branch

February 9, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Anna Kobashigawa and I am the branch manager at First Hawaiian Bank's Ward Branch. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 4 years.

I support Weed and Seed because 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. We have experienced no recent vandalism at the bank

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.

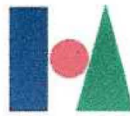
I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna' followed by a stylized surname.

Anna M. Kobashigawa
Assistant Vice President & Branch Manager

P (808) 593-9948 1 F (808) 593-9045 1 email: akobashigawa@fhb.com



HASEKO

HASEKO DEVELOPMENT, INC.

February 4, 2016

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

I am writing to ask for your support of SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and 'Ewa/'Ewa Beach. 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 a decade.

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.

I have seen the benefits of this effort in my community. 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 which needs to be continued. Your invaluable support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to strengthen its network of committed citizens working toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Mahalo,

Sharene Saito Tam
Vice President
Haseko Development, Inc.

Policy 2182

Hello my name is John Figueroa. I've been living in Honolulu for 4 years, and I'm a Criminal Justice academic at Remington College. I fully support this bill because I feel that community policing is the best way to find out how to find solutions to problems rather than reacting. It's a great strategy for the community and the police to form a working relationship together to police in minority communities. It also the most effective practice when it comes to dealing with homeless mentally ill.

My name is Jessica Agonias and I am a Criminal Justice academic at Remington College. I am in support of SB2182. Community policing has been the most successful alternative to reactive policing. Community policing is the only modern policing strategy to mend community relationships to police in minority communities. Community policing has been the most effective at dealing with homeless and the mentally ill.

S.B No.2182

Aloha, my name is Paulo O.J Paulo. I am a scholar in the criminal justice field. I've been studying criminal justice in Honolulu for about 3 years now. We've been talking, studying and analyzing the dysfunctional and broken HPD system ever since I came out of high school (2013). These things I wasn't aware of was happening right in front of me, now I'm aware of and have knowledge of the situation. I want to do something to help promote this bill.

I fully support this bill proposal for the better future of our community.

Proposing this legislature helps promote community policing in our police department. Community policing benefits us with the trust and help from the community. Community policing helps develop rapport relationships with the society which can lead to trust and the police department to work hand in hand with the community, which is the goal.

S.B. 2182

My name is Robert Ford. I am here today to write on behalf of the student caucus of the Remington criminal justice program, I am here in full **Support** of bill S.B. 2182: Relating to Weed and Seed Strategy.

This bill will be able to create one of the most successful alternatives to reactive poling like Community Policing. Community policing is the only modern policing strategy to mend community relationships to police minority communities. Not only can community policing can better the relationship with residents of the community, it has also been the most effective when dealing with homelessness and the mentally ill.

From: [KinShing Cheng](#)
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: support Weed and Seed
Date: Friday, February 05, 2016 9:30:16 AM

My name is Kin Shing Cheng and I am a teacher. I support Weed and Seed because of the truancy sweeps that they conduct with Campbell High School. The objective of these sweeps is to keep our kids in school and reduce crime in our community. The program continues to be a great resource to the Ewa Beach community, especially for the children in promoting the importance of education and staying in school.

Thank you!

Kin Shing Cheng

February 5, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Phyllis Wong and I work at James Campbell High School. I have been at JCHS for 12
years and have seen/witnessed the effectiveness of the Weed and Seed Program.

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

I support Weed and Seed because....

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be
continued. 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phyllis Wong', with a stylized, flowing script.

Phyllis Wong
91-980 North Road
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
(808)305-3703

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Fay Angeles-Aguda and I am a School Counselor. I have been involved with Weed and
Seed Ewa Beach for 10 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 of the truancy sweeps that they conduct with Campbell High
School. The objective of these sweeps is to keep our kids in school and reduce crime in our
community. The program continues to be a great resource to the Ewa Beach community, specially
for the children in promoting the importance of education and staying in 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Fay Angeles-Aguda
School Counselor
James Campbell High School
91-980 North Rd. Ewa Beach HI 96706
808-305-3625

From: Jonathan_Kea/CAMPBELL/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: Weed and Seed
Date: Friday, February 05, 2016 1:39:20 PM

February 5, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is **Jonathan Kea** and I **live and work** in **Ewa Beach**. I have been involved with Weed and Seed since it's beginning.

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

I support Weed and Seed because....

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kea
91-1210 Kaneana Street Apt 9B
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

(808) 689-1200 James Campbell High School

February 5, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is **Rowena Pasion** and I **live/work** in **Ewa Beach**. I have been involved with Weed and Seed
for **10** 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 of the truancy sweeps that they conduct with Campbell High
School. The Objective of these sweeps is to keep our kids in school and reduce crime in our
community. The program continues to b a great resource to the Ewa Beach Community, special for
the children in promoting the importance of education and staying in 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Rowena Pasion
91704 Oneula Pl
Ewa Beach, Hi 96706
808-305-3601

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is **Sherry Cassetta** and I **live** in **downtown Honolulu**. I have been involved with Weed and
Seed for 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 an educator and a parent, I have noticed the increased number of
students hanging out at our parks while school is in session. Rather than benefitting from the
education offered to them, our students are swayed by the increasing truants and illicit drug dealings
occurring within feet of our high school campus. Monitoring around our school campus would help
establish a safe environment for our students allowing them to focus on their education rather than
the negative actions occurring near and around their 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Sherry Cassetta
215 N King Street #1403
Honolulu, HI 96817
831.566.9161

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Nellwyne Young and I work in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with Weed and Seed
for several 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 of their involvement with our Truancy Sweeps our students are
more cognizant about the importance of regular attendance.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Nellwyne Young
91-980 North Road
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
808-305-3614

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Kalera Richards and I **work** at **Campbell High School**. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for **1** year.

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

I support Weed and Seed because....

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Kalera Richards
98-363 Puaalii Street
(Aiea, HI, 96701)

February 8, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support of SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-
Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Rowena Martinez and I live, work and play in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with
Weed and Seed from the time it came to my community. It has been many years since I began
advocating for this program, and I can't remember how long, but I do remember what Ewa Beach
was like before Weed and Seed came. We use to be known as the wild, wild, west, the end of the
road with the worst traffic in the state!

You have heard this many times I'm sure. That 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 resident of Ewa Beach
for.....hummm, 55 years, I've witnessed amazing changes to this place I call home. Some good,
some bad, mostly good, thanks in part to the Weed and Seed program. As the saying goes "it takes a
village to raise a child", it took Weed and Seed to support and connect the community.

I support Weed and Seed because it has given this growing community as sense of pride and safety,
blending the old and new through programs, bringing schools, businesses and organizations together
to actively participate in community events.

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. Another quote for you, "an ounce of prevention is
worth a pound in gold". Weed and Seed is definitely worth every penny!

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Rowena Martinez, PCNC (Parent Facilitator) James Campbell High School
91-531 Aikanaka Road
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706
(808) 305-3606 Work (808) 358-9381 Cell



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Ewa Makai Middle School
91-6291 Kapolei Parkway
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Ed Oshiro and I am presently the principal at Ewa Makai Middle School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed in Waipahu and in Ewa for about 10 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 have seen tremendous improvement in the Kalihi, Waipahu and Ewa areas where Weed and Seed made a difference in lessening drug-related crimes! At Ewa Makai Middle, our Weed and Seed officers have made a positive difference in the lives of our middle schoolers by conducting pedestrian and bike safety presentations, volunteering as referees and umpires for many sporting activities, and many other things!

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed Oshiro".

Ed Oshiro, Principal of Ewa Makai Middle School

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Emma Tandara and I am a seventh grade Leadership representative and a member of the seventh grade Student Council at Ewa Makai Middle School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past year.

Weed and Seed is a synergetic group that includes law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has reduced the level of violence and drug related misdemeanor in my community.

I support Weed and Seed because of the true dedication they have to helping our community to make it safer and more delightful for us all. Had it not been for those at Weed and Seed, we wouldn't have had the same support we've had for years. Within the matter of safety, they have assisted us in promoting safe driving with our sign waving outside of our school to help us to "Drive With Aloha." In addition to that, they have also lead numerous bullying and cyberbullying awareness and prevention assemblies that help keep our students safe as well. Another generous act they have done is partnered with Queen's Medical Center to donate three hundred bike and skateboard helmets so that all students who bike or skate to school can be protected.

Also, they've helped us to keep our community as lavish and gorgeous as it is with the beach clean-ups we've been able to organize and participate in with their support. In addition to the reasons I've previously mentioned, they have also aided us in making Ewa Makai a better and more enjoyable school for the students when they volunteered to ref our Intramural games to ensure that they are safe and just.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Emma Tandara
Kaiheenalu Street

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Caleb Samson and I am an 8th grade student Leadership representative from Ewa Makai Middle School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past year.

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 believe that Weed and Seed is doing a great job in what they do, and because of what their doing is for the better. Also because of the things they have already done which makes a huge difference in many peoples' lives, and saves them as well. They also support our school in things we do such as sports (Intramural Games), safety assemblies, service learning projects, etc. For sports, they referee the games we play together as a school, and make sure that each and every one of us is safe, but having fun in the process. They've also helped support our school through things such as our bike safety program where we distribute helmets to those students without them, and also rewarded those who do where their helmets to ride to school. Not only have they helped us in our service learning projects such as those, but they've also supported us in our fight against cyber bullying at our school where we teach our students the effects that cyber bullying has on others and why it should be put an end to. Weed and Seed also makes a difference to many people everywhere, which is why I believe Weed and Seed should be supported so they are able to continue supporting people, schools, and kids to keep each and everyone safe.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Caleb I.A. Samson

Keonekapu Street, Ewa Beach, HI 96706

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Jayden Ramos and I am a 8th grade leadership representative. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the 3 years.

I support weed and seed because they truly care about our community, the safety of our youth, and our parks and beaches. They are always friendly I support Weed and Seed because they truly care about our community, the safety and well-being of our youth, our parks and beaches. They have developed lasting relationships with at-risk and GT youth through refereeing all of our intramural basketball, volleyball and kickball games. Whenever my student government attends a beach clean-up or community event, the Weed and Seed officers along with coordinator Gale Bracerros are there reaching out to the community to show us that they care and educating others on how we can be a more cohesive, community by making thoughtful choices. We appreciate their efforts to support our students and staff by speaking at our school wide assemblies to improve the behaviors of our students beyond the walls of Ewa Makai Middle. They coordinated efforts with Queens Neuro Trauma Center and arranged for 300 bike and skate helmets and stickers to be distributed and fitted properly after leading a school wide bike and helmet safety assembly with HPD Bike Detail and Honolulu Bike Detail. We really appreciate how much they do for our community not to mention presenting citizenship awards at our 8th Grade graduation.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Jayden Ramos

8th grade leadership representative

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Mara Galeai and I am an 8th grade
Ewa Makai student. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 2 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.

Weed and Seed is a great organization that helps enforce the law, but at the same time they collaborate
with residents, community members, and other non-profits that have similar missions, which is to reduce
crime in our society. I support Weed and Seed because the members/officers are not only law enforcers,
but also educators and friendly people to work with. With events that we plan such as assemblies, or our
intramural sports, Weed and Seed officers are always kind enough to take the time and attend to support
our school. They help referee our team bonding intramural sports, and have taught our school about bike
and skateboard safety. In addition to bike and skateboard safety, Weed and Seed collaborated with
Queens Neuro Trauma Center, and we received 300 bike and skateboard helmets that we gave to students
that did not own a helmet. We had two occasions where we distributed the helmets and Weed and Seed
officers are always there helping us. They have also lead school assemblies about online safety and how
to prevent cyber bullying. Often times, they also come to our school in the morning and after school for
sign waving, to promote safe driving. Also, at the end of the school year we have our 8th grade Rites of
Passage and Weed and Seed is generous enough to give an award at our ceremony that promotes good
citizenship. We really appreciate everything that Weed and Seed does for us, and the rest of the
community.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Mara Galeai
8th Grade Leadership Representative

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Benjamin Mundon and I am the Student Activity Coordinator at Ewa Makai Middle School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 3 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 care about our community, the safety and well-being of our youth, our parks and beaches in addition to the concerns and needs of individual schools in the Ewa Beach area. For example, my job requires me to plan school-wide events including events with community members and parents. They are always friendly to the kids at Ewa Makai they have helped made relationships with Students and refereeing all of our intramural basketball, volleyball and kickball games. We appreciate their efforts to support our students and staff by speaking at our school wide assemblies to improve the behaviors of our students beyond the walls of Ewa Makai Middle. In addition Weed and Seed Officers Corporal Ramos and Officer Pagan have been really supportive regarding our Bike and Skate helmet Safety initiative. The Weed and Seed people also helped give over 100 kids bike helmets for their safety and do a lot to keep all the kids at our school.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Mundon
91-6291 Kapolei Parkway
Ewa Beach, HI 96789

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Jake Petrus and I am a 7th grade
Leadership Representative. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past year.

Weed and Seed is a group effort involving police force, citizens, profitless grouping, community
groups and private businesses that have helped to prevent crimes and drug deal in my community.

I support Weed and Seed because they truly care about our community, the safety and care for
our youth, our parks and beaches in addition to the worries and needs of original schools in the
Ewa/Ewa Beach area. For example, my job requires me to help with school-wide events
including events with community residents and parents. They are always friendly and able to do
whatever they can to support our school. They have advanced lasting relationships with at-risk
and GT youth through refereeing all of our indigenous basketball, volleyball and kickball games.
Whenever we set up assemblies, or school-wide events, the Weed and Seed officers along with
coordinator Gale Bracerros are there taking care to the community to show us that they care and
teaching others on how we can be a more united community by making good choices. We
appreciate their achievement to support our students and staff by speaking at our school wide
assemblies to correct the actions and behaviors of our students in or outside of school. In
addition Weed and Seed Officers Corporal Ramos and Officer Pagan have been really supportive
regarding our Bike and Skate helmet Safety action. They coordinated attempt with us at our
school and arranged for about 100 bike and skate helmets and stickers to be distributed and fitted
accurately in the morning, giving tickets, to keep our students safe, while biking. We really
appreciate how much they do for our school, and community.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Jake Petrus

7th grade Leadership representative

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair
Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in
Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Matthew Favela and I am 12 years old. I have been involved with Weed
and Seed for the past year.

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.

They really mean a lot to me. They always support us at our assemblies, intramurals
and anything that we need help with.

I urge you to support SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the
community.

Sincerely,

Matthew Favela

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Kelli Buenconsejo. I am a Public Health Nurse and serve on the Board of the Waipahu Community Coalition.

- 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 lead 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.

I urge you to please support SB2182.

Sincerely,


Kelli L. Buenconsejo, RN BSN

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

My name is Jan Nishihira. I am a registered nurse working in the Waipahu community and a member of the Waipahu Community Coalition. I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

I am an avid supporter of Weed and Seed because I have seen their diligent efforts to improve the Waipahu community. The Weed and Seed officers and site coordinator work actively with elementary, intermediate and high school students to combat and prevent substance abuse, truancy and gang involvement. They have assisted in creating neighborhood security watches in the most at-risk neighborhoods and have empowered the residents to report illegal activities promptly. Weed and Seed also organized graffiti paint outs and participate in beautification projects. They are an integral part of the Waipahu Community Coalition and help to provide safe, healthy and drug free activities for the residents of Waipahu. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated Weed and Seed team. I have seen the improvement in my community through decreased crime and increased community awareness of illegal activities.

I urge you to demonstrate your support of Weed and Seed by supporting SB2182.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jan', followed by the printed text 'RN BSN'.

Jan Nishihira, RN BSN

**Hawaii State Legislature
Senate Committee on
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Testimony**

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and other distinguished committee members

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of this proposed amendment. My name is Aaron Hunger and I am a doctoral researcher at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, a former police officer in Florida and California, and a criminal justice instructor for a private college in Honolulu. I have been honored to be engaged in doctoral research involving the Honolulu Police Department, and its oversight mechanisms since 2010. Together with my teaching, I have over 24 years of police experience. Currently, I am engaged in research with the University of Hawaii at Manoa that (among other issues) seeks to understand the unique structure of the criminal justice institutions on Oahu. Based on the unique composition of local policing organizations, one of many questions being answered is what effect (if any) does the absence of critical systemic oversight mechanisms (or their dysfunctionality) produce and how often. Based on the work and research that I have been privileged to be a part of, I would support Senate Bill 2182 (Expansion of Weed and Seed Program).

Support for this bill is based on the evidence gathered from law-makers, local politicians, federal oversight agencies, and community lobbyists and activists, all of whom point to a loss of trust in police services and accountability (statewide.)¹ Loss of trust between police and their communities is not a new, nor is it a minor issue. Communal trust in how police services are applied and distributed is critical in allowing the government to remain “legitimate” in the eyes of its citizens. Due to the high number of Honolulu police (and other law enforcement agencies throughout the state) who have been caught and prosecuted for gross violations of departmental policies and criminal statutes, addressing these communal concerns over governmental authority and “legitimacy” becomes a matter of national security and legislative priority.

Should there be a breakdown of social order as a result of police abuses of authority and power, the fiscal and political ramifications would be significant. Criminologists, community groups, and legislators have agreed that community style policing models have been specifically designed to address communal-police trust problems, which have been ongoing in most minority community’s thought-out major U.S. cities.² One philosophical difference between the methods and practices used in Weed and Seed (aka community style policing) and those used in traditional routine patrol is that Community Police Officers are trained to think of themselves as service providers whose primary tool is critical

¹ (Cachola Commission - Videotestimony, 2014) (Editor, 2015) (Grube, 2015 (SHL)) (Grube, 2015 (NB)) (Hawai’i Senate Majority, 2014) (Hawaii News Network, 2013) (Johnson, Chesney-Lind, & Chagnon, 2014)

² (Metchick, 1995) (U.S. Department of Justice, 2014)

thinking, while traditional police training centers around maintaining control (often through the use of physical force.)³

Community style police programs (like Weed and Seed) had experienced a surge in funding and interest in the years leading up to September 11th, 2001. However, after the terror attacks in New York City, priorities for police changed.⁴ After it became clear to Homeland Security experts that domestic terrorism and terrorism initiated by covert embedded cells (both) posed a significant risk to national security, local police were reorganized into fusion center clusters.⁵ These national fusion centers were responsible for coordinating training and standards for local law enforcement to ensure that local policing agencies were able to achieve an operational interconnectivity with federal law enforcement agencies. What became noticeable was the militarization of police that occurred during this criminal justice national strategy shift.⁶

Restoring funding for the Weed and Seed program sends the message to police managers that the shifts that took place away from communal centrism of police, should be undone, and that priorities and strategies for policing should shift back towards “policing with Aloha”. Community style policing (or Weed and Seed) is the idea of weeding out the bad elements of a community, and seeding in good programs. The weed and seed programs are designed to bolster alternatives to incarceration or imprisonment options, especially when focusing on juvenile delinquents.

Weed and Seed programs in Chinatown have been successful according to Weed and Seed officers who were assigned to the program. When interviewing these officers, they explained that the two major obstacles to the program’s success were the lack of funding, and the lack of seriousness with which their own command staff and officers viewed the program. While the funding for this program can be addressed with this bill, a change in police culture must also take place. It is my recommendation, therefore, that this bill be amended to include mandatory departmental (and management) retraining on community style policing and the important role it has in rebuilding communal trust in government.

Unfortunately, police themselves must reach the understanding that they are their own worst enemies, when it comes to public image. While police see their conduct or actions as creating the greater good, it often comes as a result of using tactics that alienates the very communities they seek to serve. By expanding this bill to include mandatory community style police retraining for the entire department (and specifically for departmental managers) the bill’s intent will be strengthened. Community style policing models operate, and must be managed differently than traditional patrol style models. This is because community style policing uses inverse management tools (an upside down power pyramid) where the community officer is at the top of the pyramid of power, while the chief is at the bottom.⁷

³ (Miller, Hess, & Othmann, 2011)

⁴ (Balko, 2013) (Priest & Arkin, 2011)

⁵ (Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2013)

⁶ (Harwood, 2014) (Levine, Michael, 2011) (Wofford, 2014)

⁷ (Miller, Hess, & Othmann, 2011)

With statewide police organizations being spotlighted by the media as becoming more distinct from the communities they serve by imaging themselves as overseers and domestic warrior-hunters, communities are beginning to demand action by their legislators to seek relief from over-exuberant police who use force rather than critical thinking skills to solve problems. The evidence and data that exists surrounding police community relations in Hawaii, strongly suggests that this bill be enacted to begin to address mounting frustration and loss of trust towards local police departments and their agents by their communities.

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My name is Kenneth Wayne Clark; I am a criminal justice academic in Honolulu. I have studied the unique police oversight and policing model that exists on Oahu. Understanding the current structure of the Police Commission.

I support bill number 2182 on weed and seed. Community policing has been the most successful alternative to reactive policing. Community policing is the only modern policing strategically to mend community relationship to police in minority communities. Community policing has been to most effective at dealing with homelessness and the mentally ill on Oahu. Community policing is also a good tool to address the problems that are occurring within the communities directly.

My name is Timothy Baker. I am a criminal justice academic residing in Honolulu, and I've been studying the Honolulu criminal justice system for over 2 years. I am writing in support of bill (SB) 2182. Community policing is the only modern policing strategy to mend community relationship to police in minority communities. Also, Community Policing has been the most effective way of dealing with the homeless and mentally ill. The most successful alternative to Reactive Policing has been none other than Community Policing. The benefits of Community Policing is unmatched.

My name is Roy Lovell. I am a Criminal Justice academic in Honolulu. I support SB2182 (Community Policing and Funding.) Community policing has been the most successful alternative to reactive policing. Community policing is the only modern policing strategy to mend community relationships police in communities. Community policing has been the most effective at dealing with homeless and mentally ill.

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Susan Moniz and I am a resident of Waipahu. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past eight 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.

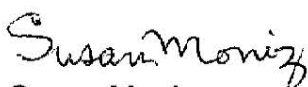
Weed and Seed has made a significant difference in my community in the following ways:

- 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 to improve their family's lives and find 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 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 demonstrate your support of Weed and Seed by supporting SB2182.

Sincerely,



Susan Moniz
64-534 Aiea Way Street

MERIDIAN PACIFIC
94-050 Farrington Hwy., Suite E1-3
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797



Office 808-677-6700 Fax 808-671-2427
meridianpacificltd.com

FAX

Friday, February 05, 2016

To: See Comments Below

From: JaNay Wyss

Fax: (808) 586-6879

Pages: 2 including cover

Phone:

Re: SB 2182 RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

Comments:

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is JaNay Wyss and I work in Waipahu. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for 4 years.

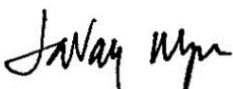
Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

I support Weed and Seed because I have seen the difference it has made on the families, schools, and the community. Weed and Seed has helped to educate and mentor our keiki, young adults, and parents to seek the right choices in creating better lives for themselves.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,



JaNay Wyss
94-050 Farrington Hwy., Ste. E1-3
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797
808-677-6700

MERIDIAN PACIFIC, LTD.
1801 Tiburon Boulevard, Suite 800
Tiburon, CA 94920
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February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

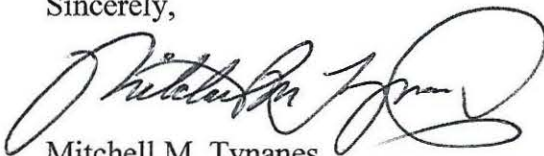
My name is Mitchell Tynanes and I lived in Ewa Beach all my life (41 years) I have been involved
with Weed and Seed for many years.

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.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitchell M. Tynanes', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mitchell M. Tynanes
91-3074 Makalea Loop
Ewa Beach Hi, 96706
808-366-5324

Aloha everyone,

My name is William Moore and I am a criminal justice academic. I lived in the Honolulu area for the past five years. I currently study the policies and laws of Hawaii and how those laws impact the people of the state.

SB 2182

I am submitting this testimony in an effort to support item SB2182 Weed and Seed. For far too long the relations between the Honolulu Police Department and the communities its serve has been severely damaged. In the media now, there is a constant battle between the communities and its police in many states across the nation and is starting to take root in this state. As a people in search of peace I believe the ideal of weed and seed will return trust, favor and support between the communities and police officers.

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Diane Tabangay and I am a life-long resident of Oahu who has dedicated her life to
serving children and families in our communities. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for over
ten 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 have experienced first-hand the positive difference it is making
in our most vulnerable communities. The Weed and Seed strategy has proven to be an effective
strategy for engaging residents of all ages, businesses, and non-profits, including our schools, in
“taking back” their community so it can be a safe place to live, work, and play. Specific to youth,
Weed and Seed staff provides the much needed coordination and facilitation that bridges our at-risk
youth with law enforcement, creating trusting and respectful relationships; as well as valuable
forming partnerships that keep our youth off the street and engaged in meaningful programs.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,
Diane Tabangay, Resident
Serving children/youth and families since 1974
J3tabangay@aol.com

From: [Jen Sarpi](#)
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: Weed and Seed
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:14:01 AM

February 9, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Jennifer Sarpi and I live and work in 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 many important initiatives that are beneficial to our community. It would be a disservice to our community to allow funding for this program to lapse.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Sarpi

91-1655 Kuuwelu Place

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

808-382-5070

SB.NO. 2182

My name is Leuluniu Otineru I am a criminal justice academic here in Honolulu. I've been studying in Honolulu criminal justice system for about 3 years now. I support this bill because community policing has been the most successful alternative to reactive policing. Community policing is the only modern policing strategy to mend community relationships to police minority communities. The purpose of this bill is to design trust and changing the standard by having more training that help police officer dealing with homeless that has mentally issue problems. In conclusion, I am in full support of this bill.

S.B 2182

Greetings my name is Lucky Lotu and I'm an enrolling student here at Remington College. We have been going through this bill as a class and so far we concluded to add a few adjustments. I am in full support of proposing this bill (2182) not only for the better of our community but as well as a greater future for our upcoming younger generation.

Community policing has been the most successful alternative to reactive policing. Community policing is the only modern policy strategy to mend community relationships to police in minority community. Community policing has been the most effective at dealing with mentally ill. In conclusion, I am in full support of this bill.

SB No. 2182

Greetings, my name is Lorentina Te'i and I am a criminal justice academic residing in Nanakuli. I have been studying the Honolulu criminal justice system for about two years on going at Remington College. Living on the west side of Oahu has its ups and downs. We have been observing and analyzing the HPD and their interactions with the public as part of my studies, also being aware of the dysfunctional and corrupt system here in Hawaii.

I am writing in support of the bill (2182), in hopes to better and create a safer environment for our community.

Proposing this legislature helps promote community policing in our police department. Community policing benefits us with the trust and help from the community. Community policing helps develop rapport relationships with the society which can lead to trust and the police department to work hand in hand with the community, which is the goal.

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Kelle Shodahl and I live and work in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with Weed and
Seed for 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.

families who receive childcare assistance so that the parents can go out to work or participate in a job
training program. To help keep tuition affordable, I urge my families to do community service such as:
help coordinate projects. Today, my parents not only participate at our yearly campus beautification
projects but also with community cleanup projects and events. I am proud to say Blessing from Heaven
Preschool is well represented. The Officers that work closely with Weed and Seed do classroom visits to
talk to my students on “Don’t Talk to Stranger.” We need Weed and Seed in Ewa Beach to keep our
community working as a team. To continue educating the community to help keep our community a safe
place to live, work and play.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,
Kelle Shodahl
91-679 Fort Weaver Road
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach. My name is Mark Ramos and I am a Police Corporal for the Honolulu Police Department. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Ewa Beach for 11 years.

Having been a Police Officer on the West side of the island, I have seen a definite difference in communities that do and do not have Weed and Seed program in place. I have been fortunate enough to have worked in the Ewa Beach area for the last 12 of my 24 years as a Police Officer with the Honolulu Police Department. Being able to see a community grow as rapidly as it has, it been an interesting and challenging experience. The ability to provide higher bail amounts for individuals that are arrested in crimes in the area. We have been able to send a message to individuals who think about committing crimes in the area., not that we will not stand by and let you offend over and over again,

With the increases of homes has brought an increase of families to the area. As the community has grown, so has the need for greater youth activities and intervention. Having seen firsthand how juveniles in the area have been able to benefit from youth mentoring programs and social intervention with officers has been amazing. The Weed and Seed program has provided opportunities for community youth to be involved in activities and events that they may not have otherwise had the opportunity to experience.

Knowing that the Weed and Seed program will unlikely be expanding to other areas of the island, I greatly urge you to support the existing sites and programs that are in place and have recently struggled to continue to be good.

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 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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,

Corporal Mark Ramos

808-478-4649

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Ruth Samuel and I live in the Kalihi area. I am also a steering committee member for
Site I. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for 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.

Weed and Seed Hawaii does an excellent job linking law enforcement with everyone in the community.
It is because of their mission I became a member of Site I Steering Committee and have learned so much
from them. With excellent partnerships in schools and other social services agencies, excellent youth
mentoring programs are now done in many of our schools. Many of their community service projects
help our parks and streets by cleaning up and painting graffiti on walls and bus stops and litter along our
streets.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,
Ruth Samuel
808-226-5080
ruth.samuel1001@yahoo.com

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
& Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Espero, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and
Members of the Committees:

RE: SB 2182 – RELATING TO WEED AND SEED STRATEGY

I am appealing for your support SB2182 to sustain the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Chinatown-
Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa/Ewa Beach.

My name is Shaunna Okuda and I work in Kalihi area and the chairperson for Site I- Weed and Seed
Site. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for 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 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 in our community. Resident and businesses are willing to join citizen patrol groups, and are more
willing to talk about what is going on in the community. Weed and Seed has been involved in our community
by coordinating events, and providing programs in our schools. They build relationships between law
enforcement and the community to work together. They are the in between person who help fill in the gap.

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 SB2182 so Weed and Seed can continue its good work in the community.

Sincerely,
Shaunna Okuda
808-349-1424
s808okuda@gmail.com