A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE WEED AND SEED STRATEGY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the weed and seed
- 2 strategy is a United States Department of Justice initiative
- 3 that is administered locally by the United States Attorney's
- 4 Office.
- 5 The legislature further finds that the weed and seed
- 6 strategy is a collaborative effort among federal, state, and
- 7 county level law enforcement agencies, social service agencies,
- 8 private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and residents to
- 9 reclaim, restore, and rebuild communities. The four key
- 10 elements of the weed and seed strategy are:
- 11 (1) Law enforcement;
- 12 (2) Community policing;
- 13 (3) Prevention, intervention, and treatment programs; and
- 14 (4) Neighborhood restoration.
- 15 The legislature additionally finds that the weed and seed
- 16 strategy uses local law enforcement to prevent, control, and
- 17 reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in targeted

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- 1 neighborhoods by "weeding" out the criminal element in the
- 2 community. Community policing involves having police officers
- 3 work closely with community residents to develop solutions to
- 4 violent and drug-related crimes. The next step is to "seed" the
- 5 community with human services that include prevention,
- 6 intervention, treatment, and neighborhood revitalization.
- 7 The legislature also finds that the weed and seed strategy
- 8 has been successful since its inception in the Kalihi-Palama and
- 9 Chinatown areas of downtown Honolulu as well as in Waipahu and
- 10 Ewa/Ewa Beach. The legislature also finds that, since the
- 11 beginning of the program, crime in those areas has been
- 12 significantly reduced.
- 13 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation to
- 14 maintain the weed and seed strategy in those communities in
- 15 which the strategy is currently being implemented.
- 16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to
- 19 maintain the weed and seed strategy.
- The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 21 the attorney general for the purposes of this Act.

1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

Grant; Weed and Seed Strategy; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for grants to maintain the weed and seed strategy, which is a collaborative effort to reclaim, restore, and rebuild communities. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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