

JAN 24 2018

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 weed and seed strategy is a collaborative effort among
6 federal, state, and county level law enforcement agencies,
7 social service agencies, private businesses, nonprofit
8 organizations, and residents to reclaim, restore, and rebuild
9 communities. The four key elements of the weed and seed
10 strategy are:

- 11 (1) Law enforcement;
12 (2) Community policing;
13 (3) Prevention, intervention, and treatment programs; and
14 (4) Neighborhood restoration.

15 The weed and seed strategy uses local law enforcement to
16 prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang
17 activity in targeted neighborhoods by "weeding" out the criminal



1 element in the community. Community policing involves having
2 police officers work closely with community residents to develop
3 solutions to violent and drug-related crimes. The next step is
4 to "seed" the community with human services that include
5 prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood
6 revitalization.

7 The legislature finds that the weed and seed strategy has
8 been successful since its inception in the Kalihi-Palama and
9 Chinatown areas of downtown Honolulu as well as 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.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 as a grant
18 pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to Weed and
19 Seed Hawaii to maintain the weed and seed program.

20 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, 2018.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 2852

Report Title:

Grants; Weed and Seed Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds as a grant to Weed and Seed Hawaii to maintain the weed and seed strategy, which is a collaborative effort to prevent crime and rebuild communities in targeted areas.

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