MAR 0 8 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII AND PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO PROSECUTE ALL CASES WITHIN THE WEED AND SEED SITES IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, in 1991, the United States Department of Justice founded Operation Weed and Seed; and

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WHEREAS, the goals of Weed and Seed are to control drug-related crimes and violence in high-crime neighborhoods and to provide a safe environment that is free of crime and drug use; and

WHEREAS, the strategy of Weed and Seed is a two-pronged approach in that the law enforcement agencies and prosecutors "weed" out criminals from the designated area and "seed" in neighborhood revitalization services; and

(1) Law enforcement;

(2) Community policing;

(3) Prevention, intervention, and treatment; and

(4) Neighborhood restoration; and

WHEREAS, there are three sites within the Weed and Seed Hawaii program: Site 1 is Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan; Site 2 is Waipahu; and Site 3 is Ewa Beach-Ewa; and

WHEREAS, Weed and Seed cases may include drug-related crime, burglary, assault, disorderly conduct, and criminal trespass in the first degree; and

WHEREAS, in a pending criminal case, the Honolulu Police Department may request the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney to seek a geographic restriction from the presiding judge, temporarily prohibiting the defendant from entering the applicable Weed and Seed site; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the geographical restriction is to target the individuals known to law enforcement for committing crimes in the Weed and Seed site; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii and Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu are requested to prosecute all cases within the Weed and Seed sites in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii, Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, and Chief of the Honolulu Police Department.

OFFERED BY: Kwt tovella

