

JAN 22 2007

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. Initiated in 1992, the strategy currently includes more
5 than three hundred sites in two hundred twenty-six cities across
6 the country.

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

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



1 The weed and seed strategy works with local law enforcement
2 to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and
3 gang activity in targeted neighborhoods by "weeding" out the
4 criminal element in the community. Community policing involves
5 having police officers work closely with community residents to
6 develop solutions to violent and drug-related crimes. The next
7 step is to "seed" the community with human services that include
8 prevention, intervention treatment, and neighborhood
9 revitalization.

10 The legislature finds that the weed and seed strategy has
11 been successful since its inception in the Kalihi-Palama and
12 Chinatown areas of downtown Honolulu. The legislature further
13 finds that since the beginning of the program, crime in those
14 areas has been significantly reduced. The legislature further
15 finds that the strategy's success warrants its expansion into
16 other communities.

17 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation for the
18 weed and seed strategy.

19 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so much
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
22 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



S.B. NO. 1231

1 2008-2009, as a grant-in-aid pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii
 2 Revised Statutes, to the YMCA of Honolulu to expand the weed and
 3 seed program to operate in the Kalihi, Waipahu, and Ewa beach
 4 communities on Oahu.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 6 of the attorney general through a contract with the YMCA of
 7 Honolulu for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.
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Report Title:

Weed & Seed; Expansion; Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates funds as a grant-in-aid to expand the weed and seed program to operate in the communities of Kalihi, Waipahu, and Ewa beach on Oahu, to be expended by the attorney general through a contract with the YMCA of Honolulu.

