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Young Brothers Proposes Rate Increase to Continue Statewide Service

The company seeks approval from the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission to offset rising costs, reduced cargo volumes and modernization of equipment.



HONOLULU – Young Brothers, LLC has filed a rate case with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), seeking approval of a \$27 million increase in revenue – or a 34% overall rate increase – critical to allow Young Brothers to cover necessary operating expenses, reinvest in its business, and continue its current level of inter-island cargo transport services.

“Steadily increasing operational costs and nearly eight years with no significant boost in revenue makes it necessary for us to reset our rates,” **said Paul Stevens, interim-president of Young Brothers.** “Our priority is to ensure that customers on all islands can depend on Young Brothers for the consistent, on-time delivery and high-quality service that are hallmarks of our 100-year legacy in the islands.”

In addition to offsetting more than eight years of rising operating costs and reduced cargo volumes, the proposed increase reflects critical investments required to modernize and optimize Young Brothers’ fleet. With over 1,250 sailings each year between the Hawaiian

Islands, tugs, barges, containers, lifts, generators and other equipment experience significant wear and tear due to usage and exposure to highly corrosive saltwater.

Recent investments include new temperature-controlled containers, shoreside equipment and four new tugs that improve fuel efficiency and service reliability for customers, provide additional safety features for crews, and reduce carbon emissions – contributing toward a more sustainable future for Hawai'i.

Today's filing begins a year-long process during which time the PUC and Consumer Advocate will review the company's proposed rate increase. Approved rates are not expected to go into effect until late 2020.

Young Brothers plays a vital role in Hawai'i as the water carrier responsible for transporting all cargo that originates and ends in the state. It is also the only water carrier to serve all islands and transport all types of cargo.

Media Kit

- [Fact sheets on YB's rate proposal](#)
- [Media file footage and photos courtesy of Young Brothers, LLC](#)

About Young Brothers, LLC

Young Brothers, with approximately 370 employees across the state, has served Hawai'i since 1900. Young Brothers is a publicly regulated water carrier providing weekly port calls from Honolulu to the state's neighbor island ports, including Hilo, Kawaihae, Kahului, Kaunapau, Kaunakakai, and Nāwiliwili. For more information, visit www.youngbrothershawaii.com.

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