

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:00:07 AM

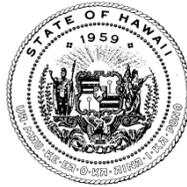
Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carl Fidel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support bill HB2386

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU  
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ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

Thursday, February 12, 2026  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, 430

## HB2386 RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS

House Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) submits comments on House Bill 2386.

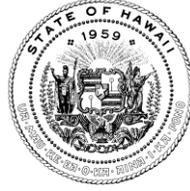
This bill proposes to authorize the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish automatic adjustment mechanisms for water carriers to address economic factors, including inflation and regulatory lag. The bill also requires the PUC to create a water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism by July 1, 2026, based on wharfage rate changes by the Department of Transportation.

While the DOT recognizes the importance of maintaining efficient and economically viable water carrier operations in Hawaii, we would like to offer the following observations:

1. The proposed automatic adjustment mechanisms, particularly the water carrier inflationary cost index, directly involve wharfage rates set by the DOT. As such, we anticipate a need for close coordination between the DOT and the PUC in implementing these mechanisms to ensure alignment with our harbor operations and financial planning.
2. The DOT acknowledges that water transportation is critical to Hawaii's supply chain and economy. Any changes to the regulatory framework governing water carriers could have significant impacts on the state's commercial harbor system and, by extension, the flow of goods to Hawaii's residents.
3. We suggest that the Committee consider including provisions for regular review and reporting on the effects of these automatic adjustment mechanisms, particularly as they relate to the overall health of Hawaii's maritime transportation system and its impact on consumers.
4. The DOT recommends that the implementation of these mechanisms be done in a manner that maintains the delicate balance between ensuring the financial viability of water carriers and protecting the interests of Hawaii's consumers and businesses who rely on these essential services.

The DOT stands ready to work collaboratively with the PUC, water carriers, and other stakeholders to ensure that any changes to the regulatory framework support the resilience and efficiency of Hawaii's maritime transportation system.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this bill.



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**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the  
House Committee on Transportation  
Thursday, February 12, 2026  
8:30 a.m.  
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
H.B. 2386, RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS**

Chair Kila and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Angelo, and I am the Executive Officer of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to: (1) authorize the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to establish automatic adjustment mechanisms to address economic factors sua sponte or on application by a water carrier; (2) require the Commission to establish a water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism; and (3) authorize the Commission to waive or exempt any water carrier from any requirement under the Hawai'i Water Carrier Act.

Specifically, this measure authorizes the Commission to establish a water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism (Automatic Adjustment Mechanism) no later than July 1, 2026. This Automatic Adjustment Mechanism is to reflect the applicable annual percentage change in the increase of wharfage rates set by

the department of transportation, harbors division (DOT), pursuant to applicable administrative rules. In addition, this mechanism shall be: (1) applied on an annual basis; (2) capped at no more than 5% per year; and (3) applied at an ongoing three-year cadence, with the Automatic Adjustment Mechanism being applied annually for two consecutive years, with the third year requiring an application with rates, fares, or charges for the transportation of property that the water carrier proposes to be effective in the third year of the three-year cycle (regardless of whether the water carrier is seeking any rate changes).

Under this measure, any request to establish the proposed Automatic Adjustment Mechanism made by a water carrier would be through a 45-day tariff transmittal or as part of a general rate case application. The third-year application shall be subject to the review process requirements of a standard rate increase application under current laws. In addition, this measure would expand the Commission's discretion and waiver authority or its ability to exempt water carriers from all laws and any applicable decisions, orders, rules, or other laws upon a determination that such laws, decisions, orders, and rules should not apply to water carriers or that application of them would be unjust, unreasonable, or not in the public interest.

The Department appreciates the intent of this bill to support the water carrier industry. Water carriers play a crucial role in sustaining each island's economy and community. The Department recognizes that any disruptions in intrastate water carrier services present significant hardships to customers, especially for communities on the neighbor islands.

However, the Department is concerned that adoption of such a mechanism may result in unnecessarily burdening customers with increasing rates. The Department's understanding is that under current DOT rules, specifically Hawaii Administrative Rules § 19-44-73(4), wharfage rates increase annually, by the greater of, 3% over the then prevailing wharfage rate, or the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

For context, the review of whether the establishment of an automatic rate adjustment mechanism for Young Brothers, LLC (YB) is in the public's interest was

already considered and evaluated in two Commission proceedings which both closed. In these cases, the Automatic Adjustment Mechanism was tied the increase to Gross Domestic Product Price Index (GDPPI) as opposed to the CPI, as it does in this bill. With this in mind, the Department notes the following:

- In 2024, YB submitted an application with the Commission requesting approval of an automatic rate adjustment mechanism, which became a matter of Docket No. 2024-0092. By order issued on December 12, 2024, the Commission dismissed YB's application without prejudice, and stated that YB may include a request for an adjustment surcharge or rate adjustment mechanism as part of its next test year rate application.
- Recently, on November 17, 2025, the Commission issued its decision regarding YB's latest rate case, in Docket No. 2024-0255. In that decision and order, the Commission approved a rate increase of \$26,085,252, or approximately 25.75%, over previous permanent rates for YB while, among other matters, denying YB's request for an automatic rate adjustment mechanism. In so doing, the Commission specifically stated that such an adjustment mechanism could be revisited at an appropriate time.

In the decision denying the request for an automatic rate adjustment mechanism, the Commission articulated that in establishing any type of automatic rate adjustment mechanism YB must first demonstrate that it is prudently operating its business, including managing its expenses and debt, and maximizing operational efficiencies. The Commission noted that without such a demonstration, the automatic rate adjustment mechanism may inadvertently serve to offset inefficiencies in other areas and mask shortcomings in YB's operations, to the detriment of customers who ultimately bear these higher costs. The Department fully agrees with the Commission on this matter.

With respect to the mechanism itself, it is not clear that the CPI accurately reflects the water carrier's actual costs of operations, especially in light of the fact that the water carrier's fuel expenses are already passed through to customers as a surcharge. The

Department recognizes that inflation impacts sectors and regions differently, and it is uncertain whether indices like CPI (or GDPPI) sufficiently track the impact of inflation on the operations and maintenance expenses of water carriers. Overall, the Department believes that such a mechanism warrants careful examination through a Commission proceeding, which the Commission articulated that it was willing to revisit.

Additionally, for further context, the Department notes that the Commission already attempted to implement certain regulatory programs that are similar to the mechanism proposed in this bill with the intention of providing the regulated water carrier with flexibility that would allow the water carrier to gradually re-balance its rates so that the rates for less than container load service would better match the cost of providing that service. This flexibility was granted in a zone of reasonableness program, as well as an annual freight rate adjustment program. After the water carrier used both programs to raise rates for all customers as well as file general rate increases to further increase rates, the Commission terminated both regulatory flexibility programs because they were not being used for their intended purposes.

In summary, the Department offers that it is premature to enable any automatic rate adjustment through this bill without first gaining a better understanding of, and potentially improving upon, the water carrier's business model as well as its ability to enact and implement cost control measures. And, rather than through a bill, such a mechanism should be established after careful review of YB's operations and processes for efficiencies in a Commission proceeding.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR



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## Testimony of the Public Utilities Commission

To the  
House Committee on  
Transportation

February 12, 2026  
8:30 a.m.

Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the Committee:

**Measure:** H.B. No. 2386  
**Title:** RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS.

### Position:

The Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") offers the following comments for consideration.

### Comments:

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to address annual inflation and regulatory lags water carriers may experience by establishing a Water Carrier Inflationary Cost Index ("WICI") automatic adjustment mechanism<sup>1</sup>. As the Committee contemplates the advancement of this measure, the Commission offers the following comments and amendment.

Over the past five years, the two regulated water carriers in the State, Young Brothers and Hone Heke, have filed various applications with the Commission for general rate increases, financing, and automatic adjustment mechanisms. In 2024, Young Brothers included a request for approval of a WICI within their most recent rate case, which was eventually denied.<sup>2</sup> Given Young Brothers' extraordinary financial situation at the time, the Commission decided that it was not reasonable to allow automatic rate adjustments

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission notes that discussions of an automatic adjustment mechanism for water carriers in the State was reflected in the final report of the Hawaii Water Carriers Working Group ("HWCWG"). The HWCWG was formed as a result of Senate Resolution Number 125, Senate Draft 1, 2020 Legislative Session.

<sup>2</sup> Docket No. 2024-0255, 2025 Test Year Rate Case.

without Commission review. Nevertheless, the Commission did grant Young Brothers a final rate increase of 25.75% over previously approved rates.

As such, the Commission offers the following amendment to the measure.

Page 1, Line 14-16, addition in bold:

(b) By July 1, 2026, the commission ~~shall~~ may establish a water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism for each water carrier of property.

The Commission appreciates that the current measure, as amended, provides the Commission the flexibility and discretion in establishing an automatic adjustment mechanism for regulated water carriers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Testimony of Matson Navigation Company, Inc.  
Support of HB2386  
Before the Committee on Transportation  
February 12, 2025

Dear Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the Committee:

Matson Navigation Company, Inc. supports HB2386, which among other things, establishes a water carrier cost inflationary index mechanism.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses. This measure will provide for water carriers and rate payers more predictability with respect to establishing rates for regulated, intrastate shipping.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support.



February 12, 2026

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

Rep. Darius Kila, Chair; Rep. Tyson Miyake, Vice Chair; and Committee Members  
Public Hearing, February 12, 2026, 8:30 a.m. – Conference Room 430, State Capitol

**Testimony of William F. Anonsen, Managing Partner/Principal of The Maritime Group**  
**In Support of H.B. 2386, Relating to PUC Water Carriers**

My name is William F. Anonsen, Managing Partner/Principal of The Maritime Group, and we respectfully submit testimony in support of H.B. 2386 authorizing the PUC to establish automatic adjustment mechanisms for water carriers and requires the creation of a water carrier inflationary cost index tied to changes in harbor wharfage and other operating costs, while maintaining clear limits, tariff filings, and Commission oversight.

From both a professional and practical standpoint, this measure represents a thoughtful modernization of Hawai'i's regulatory framework for waterborne transportation. In an island state like ours, water carriers are not optional; they are foundational to daily island life. They move fuel, food, construction materials, and essential goods between islands and into our ports. Yet these carriers operate in a high-cost environment where harbor fees, labor, insurance, and compliance costs steadily increase. Under the current process, there is often a significant lag between rising costs and the ability to adjust rates, creating financial strain that can undermine service reliability and long-term investment.

This bill provides a balanced solution. By allowing modest, predictable, and transparent annual adjustments tied to objective cost indices and capping those adjustments, carriers gain needed stability while customers retain important protections. The three-year cycle, with annual index updates followed by a full rate review, preserves accountability and public transparency while reducing unnecessary administrative burden on both the Commission and industry.

Importantly, H.B. 2386 does not weaken oversight. It maintains tariff filing requirements, Commission review authority, and the ability to suspend or modify rates where appropriate. In my view, it strikes the right balance between regulatory discipline and operational practicality. Reliable, financially stable water carriers are essential to Hawai'i's supply chain resilience and economic security. Providing a modern, predictable rate framework ultimately benefits shippers, businesses, and families across our islands.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to support and pass H.B. 2386.

Respectfully submitted,

*William F. Anonsen*

Managing Partner/Principal

THE MARITIME GROUP



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February 12, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2386**  
RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS

Conference Room 430 & Videoconference  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Kila, Vice-Chair Miyake, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawai'i Farm Bureau offers comments with concerns on HB 2386**, which would require the Public Utilities Commission to establish a mandatory automatic adjustment mechanism for water carrier rates.

Interisland shipping is one of the most significant cost drivers for Hawai'i's agricultural producers. Farmers and ranchers must ship essential inputs such as feed, fertilizer, equipment, and packaging materials, as well as transport finished products to market. Most producers are price takers and cannot pass increased transportation costs on to consumers.

Last year, the Public Utilities Commission approved a 25.75 percent rate increase for Young Brothers, effective January 1, 2026, to preserve interisland shipping services. Many agricultural producers are still adjusting to these higher operating costs. Even annual adjustments capped at five percent compound over time and could substantially increase transportation expenses across the agricultural sector.

HFB appreciates Young Brothers' Island Agricultural Product shipping discount, which provides reduced shipping rates for locally grown agricultural products. That program has been meaningful for many producers. However, increases to base shipping rates can quickly offset or diminish the benefit of those discounts, particularly for small and neighbor island farmers operating on thin margins.

While we understand the need for regulatory certainty and mechanisms to address inflationary pressures, shifting from discretionary rate review to a mandatory automatic adjustment structure reduces regulatory flexibility and limits the opportunity to fully evaluate cumulative impacts on essential industries such as agriculture.

HFB respectfully urges consideration of safeguards to ensure that any automatic adjustments:

- Maintain meaningful public input and review;
- Evaluate cumulative impacts over time;
- Preserve flexibility for the Commission to modify or suspend adjustments when warranted; and
- Protect agricultural shippers who rely on interisland transportation to sustain Hawai'i's local food production.

HFB values the critical role that interisland shipping plays in our economy and appreciates the longstanding partnership between water carriers and the agricultural community. At the same time, we ask that the economic realities facing local producers be carefully considered before establishing a mandatory rate adjustment mechanism.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony in **SUPPORT** for HB 2386, Relating to Water Carriers

House Committee on Transportation  
February 12, 2026

Aloha Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and members of the committee,

The Hawaii Harbors Users Group is in strong **support** of HB 2386, relating to water carriers.

This bill is a critical step toward ensuring the financial sustainability and operational stability of Hawai'i's interisland shipping transportation sector. Our state depends on a reliable and efficient hub-and-spoke intrastate water carrier system to move goods, supplies, and essential resources between our island communities. Each aspect of the supply chain is vital to our state's economy. However, without a modernized regulatory framework, intrastate carriers of passengers and property are forced to navigate an outdated rate-setting process that does not timely account for inflationary pressures or the rising costs of operation. Establishing a Water Carrier Inflationary Cost Index Mechanism will provide much-needed predictability and transparency, allowing carriers to continue serving our island communities without disruption, and offers a more incremental approach to adjusting intrastate rates, helping local families and businesses absorb cost increases over time and ensuring that rates keep up with rising costs.

The Water Carrier Working Group, convened under Senate Resolution No. 125, SD1 (2020), has studied the challenges facing our interisland shipping sector and identified regulatory lag as a primary issue. The current ratemaking process does not facilitate rate adjustments in a timely manner, making it difficult to respond to rising costs and market fluctuations due to increased competition. This bill provides the Public Utilities Commission with the necessary flexibility and authority to grant waivers and adopt cost-adjustment mechanisms, ensuring that our interisland water carriers remain financially viable while continuing to provide safe, efficient, and affordable service to all businesses and residents. Without these changes, our supply chain will face increasing strain, potentially leading to service reductions and higher long-term costs for consumers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.



February 12, 2026

Rep. Darius K. Kila, Chair  
Rep. Tyson K. Miyake, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Transportation

**RE: HB 2386 – RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS**  
**Hearing date: Thursday, February 12, 2026, 8:30 a.m.**

Aloha Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of Young Brothers, LLC offering **STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2386**. As drafted, this measure would:

- 1) Grant the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) discretionary authority and additional flexibility to establish rate-adjustment mechanisms for water carriers to address inflation, regulatory lag, and other economic factors.
- 2) Require the establishment of a capped water carrier inflationary cost index (“WICI”) annual rate-adjustment mechanism by July 1, 2026 coupled with mandated rate reviews for water carriers every three years.
- 3) Grant the PUC discretionary authority and flexibility to waive certain requirements for water carriers.

In sum, the changes proposed in this measure are designed to be a reasonable first step to modernize a rigid, outdated, and inefficient regulatory framework for water carriers, while offering more tempered and predictable rates and increased financial stability to facilitate the thoughtful and effective pursuit of necessary transformation.

**Who is Young Brothers, LLC (“YB”)?**

Young Brothers, LLC (“YB”) is a water carrier that transports cargo by tug and barge between the islands of O’ahu, Hawai’i, Kaua’i, Maui, Moloka’i, and Lāna’i. Since 1900, customers across the state have utilized YB’s frequent and regular sailings to serve as the “marine highway” that connects all island communities in this state. YB is currently the only water carrier statutorily authorized<sup>1</sup> to ship cargo from point-to-point within the state. As a regulated water carrier, YB is currently subject to the regulatory oversight of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”).

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<sup>1</sup> Under Chapter 271G, Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) (i.e., the Hawaii Water Carrier Act).

### **How is YB currently regulated?**

As a PUC regulated cargo water carrier, unlike other water carriers, YB is required to secure PUC approval before making changes to rates, service offerings, or sailing schedule. Securing approval to make such adjustments typically requires YB to undergo a quasi-judicial rate review process conducted by the PUC and the State Consumer Advocate to justify that YB's cost and investment decisions were reasonable and in the public interest. This process, known as a **general rate case**, is rigorous, time-consuming (often multi-year), contentious, and extraordinarily expensive under the current regulatory framework. In other words, absent PUC approval following a rate case, **YB is required to maintain its PUC approved services and sailings at the previously approved rates – regardless of the effects of external pressures beyond YB's control (e.g., inflation) and regardless of whether YB makes a profit.**

### **Is the current regulatory framework sustainable for water carriers and the customers they serve?**

No. The current regulatory framework was first codified for Hawaii Water Carriers in 1974. Since then, technology, competition, and prevailing economic conditions affecting the interisland water carrier industry have changed significantly, throwing this existing regulatory framework out of balance, and compromising the sustainability of regulated water carriers in the state. Competition from air freight, freight forwarders, and national and international water carriers have increased, coupled with the advent of online shipping services and the highest inflationary period the nation has experienced since the 1980s. For YB, regulated cargo volumes have stagnated, and its costs have concurrently risen, leading to a repeating and worsening cycle of financial deterioration:

1. Reasonably incurred costs rise faster than rates are adjusted, creating a widening gap between actual costs and PUC-approved revenues;
2. Necessary expenses and investments are delayed in favor of cheaper short-term fixes that ultimately result in increased operating costs over time;
3. The resulting higher operating costs necessitate the filing of larger, more contentious rate cases, yet concerns about rate-shock and affordability often result in limited rate increases or mandatory multi-year "stay-out" periods before further rate adjustments can be filed – further entrenching the cycle of financial instability.

In the current iteration of this cycle, the PUC recently approved an imposing rate increase of 25.75%, which took effect on January 1, 2026. YB is extremely appreciative to the PUC for its recognition of the need to extend this lifeline and to its customers for bearing the brunt of this considerable increase. However, the PUC coupled this approval with a 2-year "stay-out" period (i.e., a prohibition on rate increases) – which, absent any mitigating action, threatens to send YB and the customers who rely on our service on a path to repeat this same cycle of financial instability.

### **What can be done to break the cycle of financial instability?**

First and foremost, YB recognizes that YB must play the largest part in breaking the cycle by transforming our business in a way that is thoughtful and effective, with cost control and the customers and communities we serve at top of mind. Indeed, under new leadership by seasoned shipping and logistics industry professionals, YB is aggressively pursuing additional transformational initiatives to effectively and efficiently change the business and rehabilitate the severe financial deterioration the company has experienced in recent years. However, these efforts will take time, outreach and flexibility. While those efforts are ongoing, it must be acknowledged that there are inflationary pressures beyond the control and reach of a regulated

water carrier – yet these pressures have tangible effects on YB’s costs and revenues. Changes to the regulatory framework that has led to this repeating cycle must also be made.

Fortunately, during the 2020 legislative session, the Hawaii State Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 125, S.D. 1 (2020), requesting the PUC to convene a working group to discuss and recommend solutions to ensure continuous water carrier service throughout the State, balanced with the need for water carriers to maintain financial sustainability. Said working group (the Hawaii Water Carriers Working Group, hereinafter “HWCWG”) was comprised of 18 key stakeholders from both the public and private sectors and met 13 times from August 2020 through October 2021 to gather background information on water carriers, Hawaii’s harbor system, and regulatory oversight of water carriers.

### **What did the Hawaii Water Carriers Working Group recommend?**

In the HWCWG’s final report summarizing its findings and recommendations, the HWCWG recommended the WICI mechanism, an interim annual rate adjustment for regulated cargo rates, along with the requirement for the water carrier to submit a general rate case every three years.<sup>2</sup> **The working group found that WICI, combined with a regular three-year cadence<sup>3</sup> for general rate cases, would reduce the administrative burden associated with rate adjustments, provides a more contemporaneous means of pairing regulated cargo rates with inflation adjusted expenses, and be a “significant step forward” with respect to ensuring water carrier service throughout the State and supporting the financial sustainability of the water carrier.**<sup>4</sup> YB also contends that its customers will greatly benefit from the ability to plan for **smaller more predictable cadenced rate increases** rather than the less frequent, but less predictable and likely much larger rate increases necessitated under the current ratemaking system.

### **Does the WICI mechanism proposed in this measure differ from previous proposals?**

Yes. Previous versions of WICI proposed an annual rate adjustment tied to GDPPI to address the impact of inflation. Concerns were raised regarding the potential inapplicability of GDPPI or any such national index to a water carrier in Hawaii. **Instead, this version now addresses these concerns and ties the WICI annual rate adjustment to an annual inflation based increase that is already applied by the State of Hawaii in the exact same industry, to the exact same customers, for the exact same cargo: that is, the annual increases to the wharfage rates that are assessed by DOT-Harbors under Section 19-44-73, Hawaii Administrative Rules (“HAR”) to fund improvements to the local harbors that harbor users like YB must operate from.** See the attachment to this testimony for a comparative illustration of how an annual inflationary increase indexed to wharfage would work.

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<sup>2</sup> See Final Report of the HWCWG (December 27, 2021), available at: <https://puc.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Final-Water-Carriers-Working-Group-Report-12-01-2021.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Note that this version of the measure appears to inadvertently characterize this regular three-year cadence for rate cases as “an ongoing, repealing three-year cycle” (Emphasis added. See p. 2, ln. 9). For clarity, YB respectfully proposes that this be corrected to “an ongoing, repeating three-year cycle”.

<sup>4</sup> See Final Report of the HWCWG (December 27, 2021) at 15-17, available at: <https://puc.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Final-Water-Carriers-Working-Group-Report-12-01-2021.pdf>

**Why should the legislature take action on this measure?**

YB has sought implementation of the WICI mechanism through the PUC twice, and both times the PUC has elected to decline implementation:

- On April 5, 2024, YB filed an application with the PUC seeking implementation of the first tier of the WICI mechanism.<sup>5</sup> On December 12, 2024, the PUC dismissed the application before beginning its independent substantive review, citing to, among other things, concerns over a lack of direct legal authority to support the Commission’s review of YB’s WICI application outside of a general rate case.<sup>6</sup>
- In response, YB included an identical request seeking the implementation of the first tier of the WICI mechanism as part of its recently completed rate case (Docket No. 2024-0255). Again, the PUC declined YB’s request, stating that “[s]hould YB return to a state of financial stability, and the Commission develops confidence in YB’s ability to reasonably control its costs, it may re-visit whether a WICI is appropriate at that time.”<sup>7</sup>

While YB acknowledges that aggressive cost control is a critical area of focus on YB’s path to financial sustainability, YB hopes that the legislature can see how WICI, a long-standing recommendation from a broad group of government and industry stakeholders is also a critical component of the solution. There is no reason to delay implementation any longer and risk putting YB and the customers and communities it serves through yet another iteration of the cycle of financial instability.

Further, by generally granting the PUC discretionary authority and flexibility to establish rate-adjustment mechanisms outside of a general rate case and waive certain requirements for water carriers, the legislature would be creating a more modern and adaptable regulatory framework that can mitigate the magnitude of rate increase requests, reduce the amount of time and resources that must be dedicated to such requests, and to establish and maintain financial sustainability in an evolving and increasingly competitive operating environment.

For the reasons stated above, YB offers **STRONG SUPPORT** for this measure, as amended.

Thank you for your service to the State of Hawaii, and for the opportunity to testify offering comments on this measure.

Sincerely,

Kris Nakagawa  
Vice President, External and Legal Affairs

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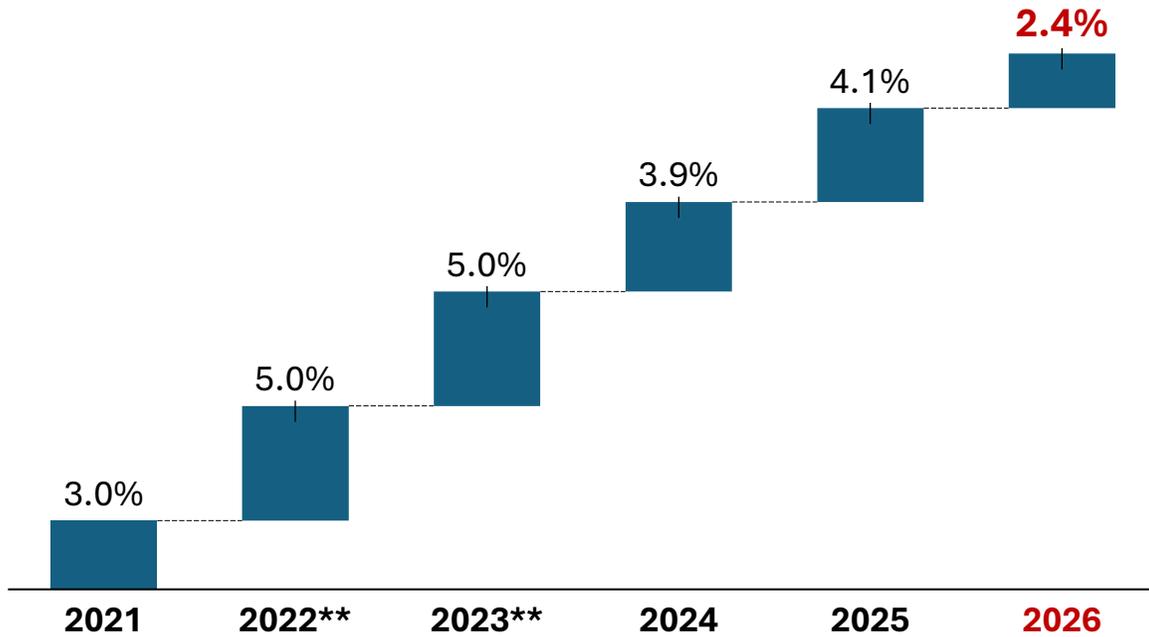
<sup>5</sup> See YB’s Application for Approval of the First Tier of the WICI Mechanism, available at: <https://shareus11.springcm.com/Public/DownloadNative/25256/12e77d0e-75f3-ee11-b843-48df377ee718/54312051-83f3-ee11-b843-48df377ee718>

<sup>6</sup> See Order No. 41249 at 9-10, available at: <https://shareus11.springcm.com/Public/DownloadNative/25256/a9ccf1a8-d3b8-ef11-b848-48df377ee710/8bf3e05c-e3b8-ef11-b848-48df377ee710>

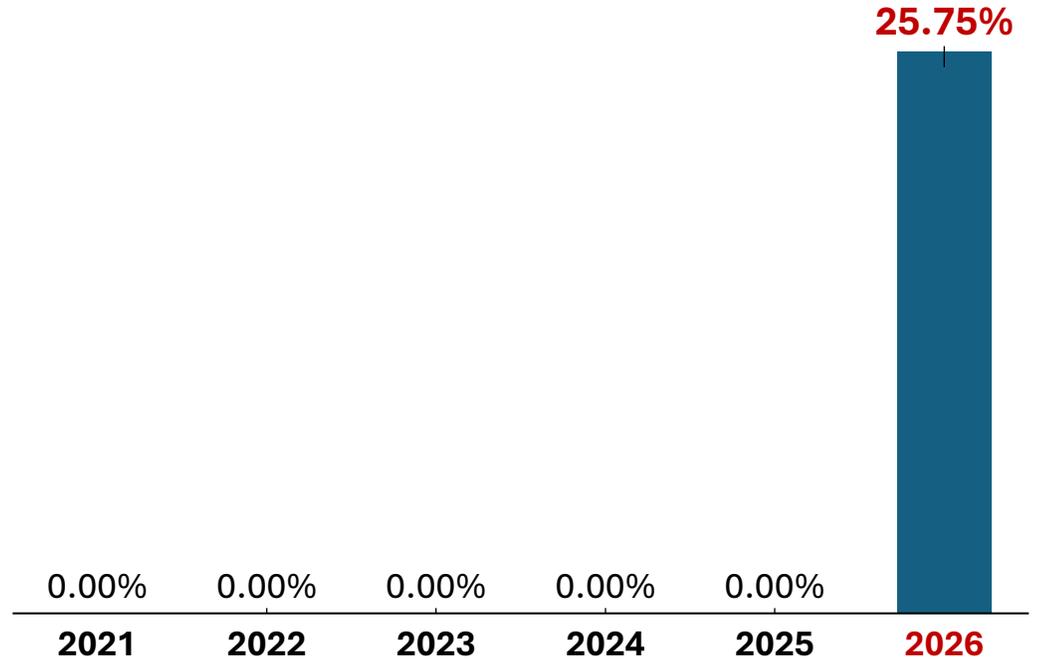
<sup>7</sup> See Order No. 42100 at 51, available at: <https://shareus11.springcm.com/Public/DownloadNative/25256/f1753d11-afe6-4002-a7fe-2d8794bc1aa5/fd077520-e4c3-f011-b84a-48df377ee718>

# Illustrative\* annual increase tied to maritime index (Hawaii DOT Wharfage) yields smaller more predictable rate increases vs. one-time General Rate Increase (GRI)

Annual Inflationary Increases 2021 - 2025 (Indexed to Hawai'i DOT Wharfage) + 2026 General Rate Increase (GRI)



No Annual Inflationary Increases 2021 – 2025 + 2026 GRI



\*For illustrative purposes only - (1) Actual WICI Cycle will include a mandatory rate review and reset every 3rd year in place of an inflationary increase. (2) Force Majeure events (fire, war, etc.) beyond water carrier's control may necessitate emergency rate increases.

Source: <https://hidot.hawaii.gov/harbors/harbor-users/admin-rules/>

\*\* 2022 and 2023 actual wharfage increase of 6% and 5.2% respectively were adjusted to proposed inflationary metric cap of 5%

February 10, 2026

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

As a port manager on Hawai'i, I oversee daily operations that allow Young Brothers to operate safely and reliably for our community, including the facilities, equipment, and people who make interisland shipping possible.

For the customers I serve, reliable interisland shipping isn't an abstract concept. It's how businesses get their products to market and how our families put food on the dinner table. The service Young Brothers provides is fundamental to our way of life and keeping our communities connected.

Over time, I have seen how complex and outdated regulations challenge our ability to reliably serve all of Hawai'i. While new rates in 2026 will help stabilize the company's finances in the short term, they do not resolve the problem we have repeatedly faced when rising costs are not reflected in the rates we charge.

As recommended by the State Water Carrier Working Group, Young Brothers needs a tool like those used by other state utilities and agencies to keep fees and rates in sync with real-world cost changes. Local businesses and community organizations have made clear that smaller and predictable adjustments would help them better understand and plan for changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of updating the decades-old regulatory rules for water carrier rate adjustments. I respectfully ask for your support in creating a more transparent and incremental approach.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Brunner', is positioned above the printed name.

Chad Brunner

February 10, 2026

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

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Over time, I have seen how complex and outdated regulations challenge our ability to reliably serve all of Hawai'i. While new rates in 2026 will help stabilize the company's finances in the short term, they do not resolve the problem we have repeatedly faced when rising costs are not reflected in the rates we charge.

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Mahalo for your consideration.

John A.S. Lucas

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A.S. Lucas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

February 10, 2026

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of updating the decades-old regulatory rules for water carrier rate adjustments. I respectfully ask for your support in creating a more transparent and incremental approach.

Mahalo for your consideration.

  
Patrick Brannigan

February 10, 2026

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sam Lono, a current Young Brothers' employee at the Port of Honolulu. In the past 10 years, I've worked in the vessel maintenance department and logistics department. I have numerous 'ohana and friends living on O'ahu and our neighboring islands who rely on Young Brothers' services to support their families.

I'm writing in full support of House Bill 2386 and Senate Bill 2694, which will allow Young Brothers to improve and continue to serve the many communities across our great state of Hawai'i.

Mahalo Nui,

Sam Lono



1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 |  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
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[info@hawaiiifood.com](mailto:info@hawaiiifood.com)

**Executive Officers**

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**Eddie Asato**, Pint Size Hawaii, *Advisor*  
**Gary Okimoto**, Safeway, *Advisor*  
**Maile Miyashiro**, C&S Wholesale, *Immediate Past Chair*

TO: Committee on Transportation  
FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: February 12, 2026

TIME: 8:30am

RE: HB2386 Relating to Water Carriers

Position: Oppose

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, manufacturers and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

HFIA is in opposition to this measure. Water carriers play a unique and essential role in our islands. Creating a system that is financially sustainable for carriers and those that rely on them, equitable for all islands, and functional, presents a range of challenges.

We agree that changes are needed to address issues within the water carrier system, and we understand price adjustments may sometimes be necessary in order to continue to operate interisland water carrier shipping services.

However, automatically increasing prices on interisland shipping with no regard for how it will impact local agricultural producers, local manufacturers, local suppliers and distributors, and local retailers is not the right choice.

Having a dysfunctional and cost prohibitive interisland shipping system stifles local economic growth. There is tremendous potential for increased agricultural production and manufacturing on the neighbor islands. Unfortunately, in order to reach our state's population center on Oahu neighbor island producers must pay for shipping that is already becoming prohibitively expensive for some small local businesses.



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**Gary Okimoto**, Safeway, *Advisor*  
**Maile Miyashiro**, C&S Wholesale, *Immediate Past Chair*

Producers on one neighbor island who want to sell product to customers on another neighbor island must pay for and navigate our complex and costly shipping system twice because almost all shipments go through Honolulu.

Increasing prices automatically without addressing any of the root problems with the interisland shipping system will just exacerbate the problems and provide no benefit for local businesses or Hawaii consumers.

We agree that changes need to be made to the current system, and we believe that the first step is to transfer oversight of water carriers from the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of Transportation as proposed in HB1707.

Creating a system of automatic price increases before other issues in the water carrier system are addressed is unnecessary and will negatively impact the price of all goods including food.

We urge the Committee to hold this measure, and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.



11 February 2026

[COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION](#)

Rep. Darius K. Kila, Chair

Rep. Tyson K. Miyake, Vice Chair

Re: HB2386 Relating to Water Carriers

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Garrett W. Marrero, I am the CEO and Co-Founder of Maui Brewing Co., operating locations in Lahaina, Kaanapali, and Kihei on Maui, and Waikiki and Kailua on Oahu. Made in Hawai'i and sold in 6 States and 2 Countries, employing more than 500 teammates across Hawai'i. We strongly oppose HB2386 as a locally manufacturer.

Local businesses in Hawai'i already face some of the highest operating costs in the nation. Local manufacturing and agricultural production are burdened by elevated labor costs, energy prices, regulatory compliance, land constraints, and—most significantly—interisland and outbound shipping costs. For many local producers, transportation is not a marginal expense; it is one of the single largest drivers of cost and a major barrier to growth. Furthermore, in the last 5 years we've already seen several massive rate increases as much as 45% for neighbor-island shipping.

Water carriers are essential to our island economy, and we recognize that the interisland shipping system faces real challenges. We also acknowledge that carriers must remain financially viable to continue operating. However, automatically increasing interisland shipping rates without regard to the downstream impacts on local businesses is deeply concerning.

Neighbor island producers already struggle to reach Hawai'i's primary population center on O'ahu due to the high cost of shipping. In many cases, products must be shipped interisland more than once—often routed through Honolulu—forcing local businesses to absorb duplicative freight costs simply to access markets within their own state. These costs are already prohibitive for many small and medium-sized local producers.

HB2386 would further increase costs on local manufacturers, farmers, distributors, and retailers without addressing the underlying inefficiencies and structural issues in the water carrier system. These added costs will not be absorbed by carriers—they will be passed directly to local businesses and, ultimately, to Hawai'i consumers in the form of higher food and goods prices.

A cost-prohibitive and inefficient interisland shipping system undermines Hawai'i's long-stated goals of increasing local food production, strengthening local manufacturing, supporting neighbor island

**MAUI**  
BREWING CO

**MAUI**  
HARD SELTZER

**MAUI**  
ISLAND SPIRITS

**KUPU**  
— SPIRITS —

**MAUI**  
ISLAND SODA

economies, and reducing reliance on imports. Automatic price increases move us in the opposite direction.

We agree that reforms to the water carrier system are necessary, but price increases should not occur in isolation. Oversight reform—such as the proposed transfer of authority from the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of Transportation under HB1707—should be addressed first to ensure a more coordinated, functional, and accountable system.

Implementing automatic rate increases before fixing systemic issues is unnecessary and harmful. It will further strain local businesses that are already operating at razor-thin margins and increase the cost of living for Hawai'i residents.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to defer HB2386.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments and for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Garrett W. Marrero  
CEO and Co-Founder  
[Garrett@MauiBrewing.com](mailto:Garrett@MauiBrewing.com)  
808.213.3007 office

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Handcrafted Ales & Lagers Brewed with Aloha  
605 Lipoa Parkway, Kihei, HI 96753 - 808.213.3002

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 4:31:39 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Haumschild	Lanikai Brewing Company LLC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

## Testimony in Opposition to HB2386

### Hawaii State Legislature

**To:** Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee

**From:** Steve Haumschild CEO Lanikai Brewing Company

**Re: HB2386 – Testimony in Opposition**

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I write in **opposition to HB2386** as a resident of Hawaii who is deeply concerned about the continued financial pressure placed on local families and small businesses. While I recognize that changes and improvements to our systems may be necessary, the approach proposed in this bill continues a troubling pattern of relying on automatic price increases and added costs without meaningful relief or accountability.

Year over year, Hawaii residents and locally owned businesses have faced rising operational costs, higher fees, and increasing financial strain. Many small businesses already operate on thin margins, and local families are struggling to keep up with the growing cost of housing, food, transportation, and basic necessities. Policies that automatically increase costs only compound these challenges and create additional economic pressure across our communities.

Automatic price increases do a disservice to those of us living and working in Hawaii. These increases often ripple throughout the economy, driving up the cost of goods and services and contributing to Hawaii’s standing as one of the most expensive places in the country to live. Without careful safeguards, transparency, and accountability, these measures risk worsening affordability challenges rather than addressing root causes.

I agree that changes and improvements may be needed; however, continuing to rely on increased charges to local businesses and families is not the right path forward. Instead, the Legislature should consider stronger oversight and alternative frameworks that promote transparency, efficiency, and public accountability. Greater review through an independent forum or enhanced oversight mechanisms — potentially involving agencies such as the Department of

Transportation or similar regulatory bodies — could help ensure that any future adjustments are justified, carefully evaluated, and balanced with the needs of Hawaii's residents and small business community.

Hawaii's economic sustainability depends on supporting local entrepreneurs, protecting working families, and implementing policies that stabilize rather than escalate the cost of living. I respectfully urge the Committee to reconsider this approach and seek more balanced, accountable solutions that do not further burden the people who call Hawaii home.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your service to our state.



## Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii

February 11, 2026

Via Hawaii State Legislature Portal

House Committee on Transportation  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**ATTN: Testimony Submittal on HB2386**  
**Hearing: Thursday, February 12, 2026**

Dear Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake and Members of the House Committee on Transportation:

I provide this testimony **IN OPPOSITION TO HB2386 RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS** on behalf of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i (JCCIH). JCCIH's mission is "[t]o promote the well-being of our community through business and personal relationship" and we have been representing the interests of our 300+ business and individual members through education and advocacy. As President of JCCIH, our members prioritize Economic Development and Infrastructure, among other issues. One of JCCIH's priorities is:

***Infrastructure:***

*We support committing **financial investments** that address our island's current and future energy, waste management, water, transportation and broadband infrastructure.*

The proposed legislation seeks to establish a "water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism for each water carrier of property" that will automatically adjust rates WITHOUT HEARING before the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC").

Our members have expressed the following concerns:

The automatic nature of the proposed inflation-based rate adjustment does not hold the regulated water carriers accountable to operate in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The application process before the PUC allows scrutiny and oversight that would be lost with an automatic price hike tied to inflation.

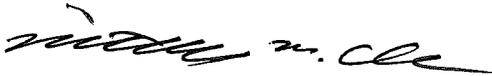
Pegging automatic increases to inflation does not make sense. Some of the major cost drivers may not necessarily move with inflation. Fuel cost is a major component of the cost of shipping. And that doesn't move with inflation. Labor costs are tied loosely to inflation, but it

seems to be more aligned with whenever the carriers negotiate labor agreements with the unions. It seems that rate setting SHOULD depend in large part on the carriers' investment in physical assets (barges, etc) so that automatic increases in the rates would provide a larger return on physical assets for which expenditures have already been made than is justified.

We believe the current method of having water carriers apply for rate changes with the PUC will produce a more justifiable means of establishing rate adjustments. Allowing the current PUC application process to continue will also allow more public participation and scrutiny that should provide a level of accountability and transparency that will benefit all parties.

**We therefore OPPOSE this bill and urge the Committee to vote AGAINST HB2386.**

Mahalo for considering our testimony,



**Mitchell Dodo**

*President of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i*

4082802v1

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:26:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Oklen McKee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:31:44 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric chuck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:31:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peku Reynolds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of Bill HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:31:54 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jolynn Dean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong Support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:33:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jane Vigilla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill addressing water carrier costs. It makes sense to review annually automatically as costs fluctuate.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:35:13 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mackey Rivera	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members,

My name is Mackey Rivera and I strongly support bill HB2386. Young brothers is the lifeline of Hawai‘i. Our homes, communities, and local economy depend their reliable services and this bill helps ensures that YB can continue providing essential services without disruption. This bill directly benefits working people, supporting stable operations, protecting local jobs, and allowing YB to keep pace with rising costs. The automatic adjustment mechanisms and inflationary cost index give the Public Utilities Commission the flexibility needed to respond to real economic conditions, rather than forcing delays that can hurt workers and service reliability. Authorizing the PUC to waive or exempt certain requirements when appropriate also ensures fair, practical regulation—especially for smaller carriers serving local and rural communities. This bill strengthens the backbone of Hawai‘i’s infrastructure and supports the people who keep our islands running. I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo,

Mackey Rivera

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:39:45 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Radford DeMotta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:40:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeremy Hatori	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:45:08 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mike Sullivan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strongest support of bill HB 2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:47:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ikaika	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:47:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristine hyman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:48:58 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jupiter balbuena	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:49:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Clare Cabacungan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:51:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vance Neizmen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:52:02 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
michael spalding	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings: As a resident of Maui, depending on regular shipments of essential goods on Young Brothers, I see a need to keep our shipping options sustainable. As you know, getting PUC approval for rate increases is costly and time consuming. This bill will, in my opinion, make for a better way to adjust rates and will result overall in lower shipping costs. I support approval of HB 2386 Mahalo Mike Spalding

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:53:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Neizmen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:56:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aukai Baybayan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the House Bill 2386. The interisland shipping company is the lifeline to our smaller local communities. I myself have many family members on Lanai and Molokai, and they are always worried of losing the local shipping company or even the thought of a temporary shutdown. Although the cost of living in Hawaii is already expensive, not having our life necessities is a greater fear for our rural communities. And so forth I greatly support HB2386 to hopefully keep a consistent and reliable flow of goods to our people of Hawaii.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:57:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jacob Planas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:57:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Korin Medeiros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:01:55 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lance Tsubota	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in favor of bill hb2386. Young Brothers should have the right to small rate increases without PUC approval for the purpose of saving time and money. The inflation on the current economy moves so fast that it's unreasonable to have to wait for PUC approval to compensate for losses. YB provides vital services to the state and needs the ability to adjust its rates freely to remain viable.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:02:52 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Greg Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill because it is difficult to have outer island get their equipment and other vital goods such as produce to help other communities to get their needs. This helps economies and others' livelihoods.

it's fair to maintain piers as well since the main hub in Honolulu to keep up with infrastructures, such as the buildings and roads where them carriers dock and truckers drive on.

Mahalo,

Greg

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:09:24 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bryson Crivello	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:12:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
destiny akita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:15:18 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kelly-Anne Tausaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:15:31 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter Morishige	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:16:27 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Flores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:17:54 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chayce Kaaua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:19:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ross Ebanez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:21:08 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daniel Friend	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In STRONG support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:22:06 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melvin Dagdag	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386,so we don't have to go through PUC procedures

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:22:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Randy Pacheco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of and strongly support HB2386. As an employee of Young Brothers limited I see first hand the importance of having a reliable overnight mariime shipping service in Hawaii. Communities around the state rely on this vital service to sustain goods and services being available for basic survival. Allow this bill to pass to ensure that all communities in the state are able to get nessary goods and services they need on a daily basis.

The cost of putting together a rate case and submitting it to the PUC is extremely expensive about one million dollars. In hopes of getting the increases needed to survive. Without these increases the company cannot sustain the increases incurred from inflation to gas prices rising everyday. I strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:24:52 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kala Kaluahine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

in strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:25:44 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Thorn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of bill HB2386. Young Brothers LLC provides vital services to all the communities and businesses in the state of Hawaii, however , in order to continue to provide these services efficiently they will need to have rate increase of minimum 5% annually. Therefore, I'm fully in support of bill HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:28:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aaron domingcil	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support for HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:28:39 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
corey akamine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

in strong support of hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:28:49 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kelly Dowler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In full, strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:28:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Katelyn Friend	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In STRONG support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:28:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Katelyn Friend	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In STRONG support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:41:45 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin De Reis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:46:58 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keith Marugame	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:48:30 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rawen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:50:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Craig Iwaishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:52:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Charles long	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:53:08 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Langtad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:55:15 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pauline Kalama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In stong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:55:40 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kawailoa Texeira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:57:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Macathur jr Dela cruz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:01:34 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elgin Meyer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong Support of bill

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:13:24 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
George Keala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:14:06 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Royale Komomua Jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kimo Komomua. I live in Kahala and I support this bill.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:14:13 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Furutani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:14:33 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daylan Saniatan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of bill HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:15:28 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Ellis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is shannon Ellis.. I in makakilo Hawaii and I'm a strong supporter of hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:15:49 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jenny Alboro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am Jenny Alboro from Mililani, I strongly support HB2386

My name is Steven Hunt, and I am submitting testimony **in support** of this measure in my capacity as the former Chair of the Hawai'i Water Carriers Working Group (HWCWG) small group on Rates. For context, the HWCWG small group on Rates was formed in late 2020, with the goal of coming up with recommendations that would support the sustainability and profitability of the water carrier, minimize the need for large adjustments between formal rate cases, and provide safeguards for consumers with respect to runaway or unreasonable automatic increases for the water carrier. I want to reiterate why our committee strongly advocated for the Water Carrier Inflationary Cost Index (WICI) mechanism, which was ultimately adopted as Recommendation No. 1 in the HWCWG Final Report.

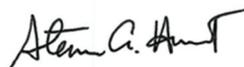
First, the current rate case method that's facilitated by the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission tends to be slow, cumbersome, costly, and inefficient as the outcomes often result in large rate spikes that are necessary following extended periods without adjustment, rather than more contemporary incremental adjustments. Adhering to this current rate adjustment methodology discourages future capital investment, puts the water carrier at financial risk by having to incur unsustainable short-term debt to subsidize losses, and raises the ire of consumers that view these less frequent and large rate adjustments as being exorbitant.

Second, WICI is not meant to replace the general rate case process but rather provide a means for more timely, but limited, rate adjustments during the periods between burdensome and resource consuming rate cases. For example, keeping in mind that inflation could potentially be highly volatile, the small group on Rates recommended the annual rate adjustment have a cap of 5% to provide consumers with some level of price protection as well as hold the water carrier accountable for controlling their expenses.

Finally, as a safeguard for consumers against the potential for runaway automatic increases, the WICI mechanism also contemplated that rate cases would be *mandatory* at a consistent cadence (every third year) to reconcile any excessive adjustments *and* to account for costs and investments not covered by WICI.

As of 2025, it's clear that the concerns WICI was meant to address have not only persisted but have evolved, continuing to impact the industry. While I recognize that there have been many factors at play, it's worth considering whether earlier implementation of this recommendation might have helped mitigate some of the challenges the State's water carrier system is facing today.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments on this issue.



Steven A, Hunt

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:17:28 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cody Deonte	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of bill HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:17:41 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Garrett Uyetake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386. With this bill, it would help companies like Young Brothers remain stable not having to constantly go and apply for rate increases with the puc.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:18:50 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan Kaaihue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386. I live in Honolulu

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:19:54 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reggie Kealoha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support hb 2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:20:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaimana Augustiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kaimana Augustiro and I'm from Honolulu and strongly support bill HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:21:12 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roman Masaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly agree and support this bill HB2386

Mahalo Roman Masaki

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:21:51 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shaun Matsuo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:23:02 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rickey Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:25:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hugh Saffery	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Members of the House State Legislature. My name is Hugh Saffery. I am a citizen of Honolulu, Hawaii and born and raised in Kalihi. I have lived here in Honolulu all my life. I am 51 years old and in Full Support of HB 2386. This is great for the economy of Hawaii and benefits all the outer communities of the outer Islands of Hawaii. Please approve and pass this HB 2386 as soon as possible.

Respectfully Yours,

Hugh Saffery

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:25:42 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dustin Elisara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Dustin Elisara, I reside in Mililani, HI and I am in strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:26:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joe Correia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Joe Correia and I strongly support HB2386. YB is the backbone of this state

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:27:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lawson Faria	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support bill HB2386 relating to water carriers.

Water is the lifeline of Hawai‘i. Our homes, communities, and local economy depend on reliable water systems, and this bill helps ensure water carriers can continue providing essential services without disruption.

This measure directly benefits working people, including our young brothers entering the workforce, by supporting stable operations, protecting local jobs, and allowing water carriers to keep pace with rising costs.

Authorizing the PUC to waive or exempt certain requirements when appropriate also ensures fair, practical regulation especially for smaller carriers serving local and rural communities.

This bill strengthens the backbone of Hawai‘i’s infrastructure and supports the people who keep our islands running. I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo,

Lawson Faria

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:27:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kekaialoha Han-rael	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of bill HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:27:54 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cy Morishige	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:28:17 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong supprt of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:28:24 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marlo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:28:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rey Viloría	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi, I am Rey from Waipahu. I am an employee of Young Brothers and am in strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:28:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mikel Jay Fojas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:29:01 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Kalana Apana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is James Apana from Pearl City and I'm in strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:29:20 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Micah Mahikoa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Micah Mahikoa from Kapolei Hawaii is in full support of HB2386, I know first hand what this bill means to a lot of local families across the state.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:29:31 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Craig P.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support or bill hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:29:51 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jameson Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:31:17 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marlene Nakaishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:32:16 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
India Luis-Soo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:33:24 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Morishige	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:33:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristi Miyasato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:33:50 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christian Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of bill hb2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:34:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Grayson Gonsalves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:34:22 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dennis Jacintho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:35:38 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nicole Nagasawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:36:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Justin Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:37:34 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Kauhane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of hb2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:38:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Manuel Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:41:56 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Philip Guerrero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Philip Guerrero strongly support HB2386. I believe Young Bros. Plays a vital role in the state of Hawaii and communities. They are the lifeline for outgoing and incoming cargo, island products, and livestock.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:44:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William G. Agbayani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I am William G. Agbayani, a concerned resident of Honolulu, Hawaii. I am in full support of this Bill.

This Bill will improve countless lives for the State of Hawaii, especially for our neighbor island friends and ohana.

Please allow this to be passed for a brighter future for generations to come.

Mahalo

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:44:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Rivera	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386!!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:45:39 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Greg Amby	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature

Aloha , My name is Greg Amby and I approve the HB2386. In helping us get the increase of 5% annually I feel it would give us the stability to move forward and better serve the community .

Thank you for your consideration,

Greg Amby

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:46:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kauai Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:46:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anthony R Sanchez Jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:49:04 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nadine Yingst	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly give my full support for this Bill.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:52:42 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Saffery Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support for this bill

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:55:02 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
RENEE KOMOMUA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:57:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
ROYALE KOMOMUA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:03:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Bolosan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon,

My name is Richard Bolosan and I'm a current employee of Young Brothers. For the past 19 years I've been fortunate to be a part of the legacy that Young Brothers has grown for over the past hundred years. We here at Young Brothers strive to provide our family and friends on the neighbor islands with timely, reliable service. But with all businesses, excellent service comes at a cost and that cost rises every year. Inflation is incorporated into the cost structures of all businesses, all we ask is that we are afforded the same courtesy.

Sincerely,

Richard C Bolosan

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:05:10 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Heather Mendonsa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support and agree with this bill and what it offers. Bill HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:12:49 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kinsleykim kahumoku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:16:44 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noland Fernandez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

He2386 strong

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:23:58 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Matsumura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:29:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Annette Kaopio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Annette Kaopio support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:33:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Celeste Magaoay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Celeste Magaoay I am a resident of Honolulu and an employee of Young Brothers. I am in strong support of this bill.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:45:45 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin Blackstad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support bill HB 2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:58:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan Hermosura	Young brothers	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Young Brothers employee, I fully support HB2386. A lot of the negative press from the public comes from seeing big percentage increases every 5 or so years. This measure would help us keep up with inflation, minimizing the increase over time instead of all at once. Thank you for your time.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:12:10 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gregory Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:20:14 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kimberly Gerhardt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am grateful for my job at Young Brothers. I feel we provide a great service to the community and would like YB to continue to serve our islands.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:23:55 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenneth Risso	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, as a maintenance worker I strongly support this bill HB2386. I can say it is very cost consuming to keep our equipment in top shape to support our daily operations. We repair forklifts, generators, containers, and vehicles on a daily basis. As we all know gas, diesel, and oil prices are high here in the islands. I see parts prices go up every year also. Then there are the operations cost to factor in.  
mahalo for taking the time to hear me out.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:24:40 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:27:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nalu Meyers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:28:17 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alisa Yap Okunami	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a 20+ year employee of Young Brothers in strong support of HB2386. Throughout the years, I have seen our company struggle to operate in a financially sound manner due to their hands being tied by having to go through the PUC for approval each time they need a rate increase, whether it be to purchase new barges or equipment, or reasons outside of their control such as the aftermath of the covid pandemic... By not having the option to increase rates when the company needs to, it puts them in a bind and prolongs the funds, making it hard on the public when they finally are approved to do so. The passing of HB2386 will directly impact the public and customers by allowing the company to have funding available when they need to fix equipment or improve operations. Thank you for your time.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:32:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daniel Takashima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Hawaii House Bill 2386(HB2386)

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:47:00 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Guyes Galdeira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386 because stabilizing water carrier operations through automatic adjustment mechanisms will help ensure that essential water transportation services remain reliable and financially sustainable. By authorizing the Public Utilities Commission to proactively address inflationary cost pressures and adjust rates as needed, this bill will help protect both, number 1, the consumers. We're all in the same boat and paying a price to live. Number 2, businesses that depend on affordable, consistent water carrier services. The water front is an essential part of Hawaii living, a life line. Businesses need to be able to maneuver with times ahead and now, not 10 years ago. HB2386 offers a practical, forward-looking approach that supports economic resilience in Hawaii's transportation infrastructure and the Hawaiian people.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:47:25 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stevie Yates	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Stevie Yates. I am born and raised in Makakilo. I am a current employee of Young Brothers and I am in strong support of this bill.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:47:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Casie Fuentes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am Casie Fuentes from Waipahu, an employee of Young Brothers and I strongly support bill HB2386.

What this bill is offering to the people of hawaii is something our community needs based on the fluctuations in our economy.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 4:58:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Crispulo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Crispulo Aki strongly support bill HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:25:59 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Ray	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:26:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kalanihuia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:28:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Randilyn Kawachi Livingston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:28:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ronald Rapanot III	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:38:49 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robyn Miyashiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong Support of HB2386

Jennifer Lim  
PO Box 883  
Aiea Hi 96701

February 10, 2026

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of the Water Carrier Inflationary Index (WICI). HB 2386

I've worked at Young Brothers for over 14 years and have seen how the decades old regulatory rules for water carrier rate adjustments are in serious need of revision. Prior to working at Young Brothers, I was also a customer of YB, who utilized its services and understood that as a state utility, Young Brothers' ability to provide reliable interisland shipping depends on customer rates covering the cost of providing the service.

Last year, as Young Brothers pursued a rate adjustment, I travelled with a team to visit with customers and community organizations and the one thing we heard the most was, "why couldn't YB adjust the rates every year in smaller increments?"

The State Water Carrier Working Group — made up of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), Consumer Advocate, state agency leaders and elected officials, representatives from County government, and labor — met for over a year to identify opportunities to strengthen interisland shipping and the financial sustainability of water carriers. Building on the group's top recommendation, the proposed legislation would create a transparent new rate adjustment mechanism for water carriers. Each year, customer rates would be adjusted based on an existing framework to adjust the fees collected to maintain port infrastructure, administered by the Department of Transportation.

Reducing regulatory lag is a vital step toward securing the future of interisland shipping and Hawai'i's supply chain. This solution would modernize, not replace, the rules for interisland shipping. The PUC's oversight powers would remain unchanged, and it would retain complete control over setting Young Brothers rates as part of a comprehensive review required every three years. It also ensures that rate changes between reviews are incremental, with an annual cap of 5%. This is what makes sense for our customers and the community.

I hope you will stand with Young Brothers' more than 400 team members and the communities we serve by supporting this legislation.

Mahalo,  
  
Jennifer Lim

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:49:05 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyle Kauhane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill H B 2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:12:56 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaydee Chung	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:14:07 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sheriann Sardinha	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:15:12 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenworth k Meyers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:17:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Hirota	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am on strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:26:07 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maile Ahana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:31:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lee Ann Kalani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill to avoid a rate spike of large increases and support a more gradual increase over time.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:32:16 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Ala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:45:41 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wailani Racelo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:59:08 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jesse Andrade	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in strong support of HB2386. The service provided by Young Brothers is integral to the transportation of goods between the islands. WICI will provide the water carrier with the ability for incremental increases rather than extreme increases every 4-5 years. It will also provide better predictability for both carrier and consumer. I believe it's step in the right direction to provide stability to a service that is vital to the Hawaiian islands.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:07:35 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jyen Akima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:13:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kelly Kawamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly Support this bill

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:30:13 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chad Ah Puck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:51:20 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cameron Hart	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:11:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cienna Morishige	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:18:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ehu Tabilangan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha my name is Ehu Tabilangan and I'm from the island of Molokai. I am in strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:28:16 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jolynn Dean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support HB2387

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:33:18 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jon Bragado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:36:40 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kory Tabilangan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My Name is Kory Tabilangan and I am in strong support of HB2386.

Thank you

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:37:19 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hawelu Alonzo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:40:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mydard Espiritu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm Mydard Espiritu from LANAI. I I strong support HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:48:10 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lowen Moses	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of bil HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:57:27 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erman Tancayo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am I. STRONG SUPPORT HB2386

Mahalo

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:59:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Curtis Lott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:01:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Tancayo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I am in STRONG support of HB2386

mahalo

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:05:36 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Darrin Manu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong Support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:06:41 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christian McKee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:17:06 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mahealani Gillia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:19:07 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lucky Laureano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:21:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Koali Nishigaya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of the bill HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:22:41 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dane Rivera	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of hb2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:28:24 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shawna Rapoza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2386!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:33:19 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Harmony Pacheco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Harmony Pacheco, strongly support HB2386.

Thank you

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:39:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alyson Matsubara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386!

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:45:41 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Monica Kahumoku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT THE BILL

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:52:02 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Geraldine Hirakawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT THIS BILL

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:06:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Yasukochi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support HB 2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:06:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Yates	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to ask your support of H.B.2386. I believe this bill allows water carriers to continue successful service to our island community with minimal economic impact to the public.

I strongly support H.B.2386 and thank you for considering my views.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Yates

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:22:06 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vince Killeen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:32:19 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dustin Rellez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:06:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tiana Catekista	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for this bill ~ I strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 6:02:12 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Kamakea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 6:29:43 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruth Yasui	Young Brothers	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 6:52:55 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
warren serikaku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:14:38 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Malia Arellano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:32:29 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Heather Stone-Kalani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am an employee of Young Brothers LLC and I strongly support HB2386. Thank you.

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:33:57 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noah Friend	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

February 11, 2026

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of updating the decades-old regulatory rules for water carrier rate adjustments.

My name is Ashlee Kishimoto, and I am an employee of Young Brothers. As a state utility, Young Brothers' ability to provide reliable interisland shipping depends on customer rates covering the cost of providing the service, and on its ability to plan ahead and invest in the future. It requires having the equipment our skilled team needs to navigate challenging ocean conditions and deliver what matters most to Hawai'i. It means maintaining equipment, planning repairs or replacements before something breaks. It demands statewide infrastructure and a presence in each of our island communities, including routes that do not generate a profit.

Last year, as Young Brothers pursued a rate adjustment, we operated at a loss of more than \$23 million. While new rates in 2026 will help stabilize conditions, they do not resolve the underlying cycle created by regulatory lag and rising costs.

The State Water Carrier Working Group — made up of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), Consumer Advocate, state agency leaders and elected officials, representatives from County government, and labor — met for over a year to identify opportunities to strengthen interisland shipping and the financial sustainability of water carriers. Building on the group's top recommendation, the proposed legislation would create a transparent new rate adjustment mechanism for water carriers. Each year, customer rates would be adjusted based on an existing framework to adjust the fees collected to maintain port infrastructure, administered by the Department of Transportation.

Reducing regulatory lag is a vital step toward securing the future of interisland shipping and Hawai'i's supply chain. This solution would modernize, not replace, the rules for interisland shipping. The PUC's oversight powers would remain unchanged, and it would retain complete control over setting Young Brothers rates as part of a comprehensive review required every three years. It also ensures that rate changes between reviews are incremental, with an annual cap of 5%.

I hope you will stand with Young Brothers' more than 400 team members and the communities we serve by supporting this legislation.

Mahalo,  
Ashlee Kishimoto

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:42:00 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shane Moses	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of HB2386

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:49:23 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cy Chong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2386 - Strong Support

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:55:26 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Norman K Kaaihue III	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I highly support this bill. The inter island shipping is a lifeline the Hawaii cumunity especially those one the smaller islands



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Natalie Urminska  
Kaua'i

Aloha Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the House Transportation Committee,

The Hawai'i Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFU opposes HB2386.**

HB2386 poses a considerable threat to Hawaii's agricultural community by allowing the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to implement automatic rate adjustments for water carriers, significantly reducing the effectiveness of public oversight and accountability. The ability for water carriers to automatically adjust rates based on economic indices could lead to unchecked increases in shipping costs, disproportionately impacting small and family-owned farms. These farms rely on consistent and affordable shipping to move their goods to market. By decreasing the interval for public testimony to once every three years, the bill effectively silences the voices of those who are the most vulnerable—undermining their capacity to advocate for fair rates and practices that are vital to their survival.

Moreover, the bill could exacerbate existing challenges in achieving regional food self-sufficiency by incentivizing large producers to seek private shipping solutions, leaving smaller farms to bear the brunt of rising costs. This shift could further stratify the agricultural sector, favoring big agribusiness at the expense of local, sustainable farming practices. It is imperative to maintain robust regulatory oversight to ensure the shipping sector supports—not hinders—Hawaii's agricultural goals. Without this oversight, Hawaii risks compromising its food security and the livelihoods of small-scale farmers who are integral to the state's cultural and economic fabric.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin  
Advocacy Director  
Hawai'i Farmers Union

**HB-2386**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 8:17:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/12/2026 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shawne Uyetake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in strong support of HB2386.