
From: Sen. Mike Gabbard <sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 10:44 AM
To: PUC
Subject: Young Brothers

Aloha e James,

Hope you're safe and healthy. I contacted the Department of Ag and Young Brothers about this concern on Friday. I'm writing you now as the PUC will be involved in the decision-making on this. Please take into consideration Hilo/Puna area farmers.

Stay well!

Me ke aloha pumehana,



Senator Mike Gabbard

Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 201

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Ph: 586-6830

[P.S. Click HERE to check out my Senate webpage](#)

"Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals, and happiness." Thomas Jefferson



-----Original Message-----

From: Johnson Family Farm <homeorganicproduce@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 11:25 AM

To: Sen. Mike Gabbard <sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov>

Subject: Please ask Young Brothers to keep MONDAY SHIPPING DATE FROM HILO TO HONOLULU

Michael J. Durkan

P. O. Box 1793

Pahoa, HI, 96778

1 (808) 4913446

Email: mailto:homeorganicproduce@gmail.com

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Farmers in the Hilo area and our markets on Oahu are very concerned about the removal of the Monday Barge from Hilo to Honolulu from Young Brothers shipping schedule.

We can't switch to Thursday because it arrives in Honolulu on Saturday and Young Brothers works only half a day on Saturdays. This means most of our agricultural products must wait till Monday for pick up and lose freshness and quality. Markets also lose the peak weekend sales and many of our farmers and workers are "WEEKED WARRIORS" that have jobs during weekdays preventing them from harvesting for Thursday barge shipping. We are now having to pay Trucking Companies to haul to Kawaihai Barge on Tuesday. This is difficult because they do not have the capacity to receive, store, and haul it. This adds 4 cents per pound to our freight cost which means higher prices for customers and reduced sales for us.

Please ask Young Brothers to reconsider and cancel the Thursday Hilo Barge if they must.

Mayor Kim supports this.

Sincerely,

Michael Durkan

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2020 May 06 PM 14:50

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