



Pier 40, P.O. Box 3288, Honolulu, HI 96801-3288  
Ph: (808) 543-9311 Fax: (808) 543-9458  
www.youngbrothershawaii.com

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, VICE CHAIR**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2439, scheduled for hearing on January 31, 2012**

**Testimony of Roy Catalani, Vice President of Strategic Planning and Government Affairs, and  
Sandra Hoshida, Manager of Government Affairs, Young Brothers, Limited**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2439 (SB2439).

**Young Brothers, Limited (*Young Brothers*) supports SB2439.**

This legislation proposes to restructure the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Hawaii (PUC) and its administrative staff to achieve fair representation of all island communities and to ensure that this agency "accurately responds to the interests of the entire State and holds sufficient expertise in the relevant issue areas." SB2439 seeks to ensure representation of Neighbor Island interests by proposing, among other things, a five-member PUC with at least two commissioners representing the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui. It also proposes appointment of an executive officer of a caliber that allows commissioners to focus upon and address planning and policy matters affecting the State's essential utility services.

Young Brothers agrees with the Legislature that the regulatory structures and regulated industries under the PUC's oversight have grown increasingly complex since the agency's formation. Given this increasing complexity and the PUC's burgeoning workload, we support providing the PUC with additional resources, both in positions and in funds, to meet the procedural and substantive challenges it faces. YB leaves to the State's policy makers the specific form that this additional support should take (in this and other bills), although we support Neighbor Island representation on the Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.