Hello,

My name is Christina Marie Lehua Nani Hansel Garcia. I was born in Kealakekua Hawaii in 1983. I am not of Hawaiian descendants, but I was born here, brought into this world to call Hawaii my home. Nowhere else on Earth can I say “I am born and raised!” I am proud to be from such a beautiful land.

This is my testimonial:

Being born and raised in Hawaii, I have been able to watch the culture around me and grow to respect the traditions and the power that is within Hawaiians. I am very saddened, hurt, and very upset of the construction that is proposed for a TMT on top of Mauna Kea! Why can’t the telescopes that are already on the mountain be used to their fullest and leave the rest of the sacred land ALONE! Use what is not broken or fix what needs to be fixed.

This is a waste of money, time, energy and destruction to a place that should be left alone and respected. The best thing to come out of all of this is the rise of a community felt worldwide to protect what needs to be protected for future generations, like my children who are of Hawaiian bloodlines!

Take this testimony and do what you will, but please keep in your heart and mind: **Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono**

State mottoes may be said to reflect the character and beliefs of the citizens of the state, or more accurately, the citizens of the state when they were adopted. State mottoes can **help us gain insight into the history of a state.**

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Christina Marie Lehua Nani Hansel Garcia