Dear University of Hawaii Board of Regents,

I am among the many Hawaii residents that are concerned about Mauna Kea and the construction of the TMT. I can’t speak for all of us but I think that for most of us, we want you to understand that this isn’t a fight between Hawaiians and science. I, along with many of us, am very futuristic and support science and new findings, however not at the cost of Mauna Kea. Although it is good to look to the future and innovation, we must not forget to look also to the past and our roots.

The Hawaiian culture is struggling and has been fighting an uphill battle not just with the TMT but in general. If we don’t take a stand for our culture and don’t keep in touch with our roots and don’t pass on such valuable knowledge to the next generation and the next, it will be lost forever.

Mauna kea is the peak of Hawaii, the first child of Papa and Wākea, our ancestors, and it’s the place closest to the gods. It can’t be destroyed by some huge telescope that can easily change its location to another sight. The world contains many mountains but Hawaiians only have one Mauna Kea.

Sincerely,
A resident of Hawaii