To whom it may concern,

My name is Kayla Ann Leasure and this is my testimony to the TMT happening at our beloved Mauna Kea.
I am a woman who was raised around hunting, as many others in Hawaii; it's what my family is known for. Me, being a girl I never could get out of the truck because in my father's eyes, hunting isn't for girls. But as the hardheaded little girl I was, id go up anyways, not to hunt, but to be at peace, to escape from reality, to escape from my father's harsh words and my mother's cries. I find peace there, as do many others. Mauna Kea is so special, so tranquil it'll make you forget about the problems you have below. Mauna Kea has protected us from many harsh storms as her body is so strong. It is so important to my family that my grandfather wants his ashes spread right where the TMT will be placed; and I know, everyone's probably thinking, who cares about her family and what her family wants. It's not just me, it's everyone. We as Hawaiians will NOT back down we will NOT give up. I want my son, who is two, to live as I did, to be at peace and to just feel her power when he's up there. This construction will break many hearts. If Hawaii ever tried to take anything sacred from anyone we would get punished. So why take away our Mauna from us? Why take away family trips to the highest point above sea level?
We are Hawaii and we will stand for what belongs to us! Too long has things been ripped from us, our culture, our land!
We do not need our Mauna to be civilized for scientific purposes. There is many other ways for those scientists to look into space, they've been doing it for years. Don't take this away from our home, from our keiki, from our lives.
Mauna Kea is apart of my family and I, and it's apart of all of you reading this who has experienced her tranquility. Do not take her beauty from us.

Sincerely,
Kayla Ann Ka’ulawena Leasure