To whom it may concern,

The following is my written testimony regarding the Management of Mauna Kea and the Mauna Kea Science Reserve:

My mother’s Hawai‘i, my Hawai‘i, our Hawai‘i is changing culturally, ethnically, and socio-economically at a rapid and alarming rate. The monolith that is Mauna Kea stands as a steadfast that anchors Hawaiians and Hawai‘i residents alike in this present landscape of change. Interested parties need to ask at what and at who’s cost does scientific progress come? A land title, a land lease, does not confer true ownership of the summit, for a culture and a people are manifested in Mauna Kea and we are not to be possessed.

Sincerely,
Thomas ‘Aukai Oakes