To the University of Hawaii Board of Regents:

As a second generation Filipino American, I write this letter in support of stopping further development of Mauna Kea. No science or progress should be made at the expense of trampling the spiritual rights of native Hawaiians. Our first amendment guarantees the rights of all Americans to religious freedom. For centuries native Hawaiians have revered Mauna Kea as their place of worship. They have protested many years against placing telescopes on Mauna Kea. As members of the Board of Regents that represent a higher level of learning, it is incumbent on the Board to recognize the spiritual and cultural heritage of native Hawaiians. The protection and preservation of a sacred place such as Mauna Kea is paramount in promoting cultural diversity and tolerance. This is beneficial to all Americans, present and for future generations. This is true progress, true learning.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Ms. Lee Pono