

TO: State of Hawaii Land Use Commission  
P.O. Box 2359  
Honolulu, HI 96804

FROM: Lehua Kaulukukui, Kumu Hula & Native Hawaiian Cultural Practitioner

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT OF** Petition of Ku`ulei Higashi Kanahale and Ahiena Kanahale for a Declaration Order Concerning the invalid classification of the de facto and improper industrial use precinct on approximately 525 acres of State Land use Conservation District Lands located in Mauna Kea and Hilo, County of Hawai`i, Tax Map Key (TMK) No. (3) 4-4-015:009

Date: October 15, 2019

LAND USE COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

2019 OCT 15 AM 8:13

I am submitting my written testimony in SUPPORT of Mr. and Mrs. Kanahale's Petition for Declaratory Orders and ask that you grant the conditions of this Petition.

According to the Merriam Webster dictionary, the definition of Conservation:

### Definition of *conservation*

**1:** a careful preservation and protection of something, *especially:* planned management of a natural resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect

### Definition of *conserve*

*transitive verb*

**1:** to keep in a safe or sound state. *especially:* to avoid wasteful or destructive use of

In my observation, the above definition is exactly what our kupuna and kia`i are standing for: To prevent further exploitation, destruction, and neglect of our sacred mauna. Yes, our mauna is sacred. Our chants and mo`olelo tell us so and so it is. Just like you and me, our mauna has a genealogy. From the Kumulipo, our sacred chant of creation:

O hanau ka mauna a Kea	Born of Kea (Wakea) was the mountain
`Opu`u a`e ka mauna a Kea	The mountain budded forth
`O Wakea ke kane,	Wakea is the husband
`O Papawalinu`u ka wahine	Papawalinu`u is the wife
Hanau Ho`ohoku he wahine	Born was Ho`ohoku, a woman
Hanau Haloa he ali`i	Born was Haloa, a chief
Hanau ka mauna	Born was the mountain
He keiki mauna na Kea	A mountain child of Kea

My question is, what were the criteria that qualified this TMK to be designated as zoned Conservation to begin with? A sensitive and unique ecosystem? Sensitive and unique species? The only Hawaiian volcano with distinct evidence of glaciation? The role that our mauna plays in the hydrolic cycles for Hawaii island, for the Hawaiian archipelago and for the world? The only alpine lake in the Hawaiian chain? The numerous archaeological sites? A pristine environment? The answer is an unequivocal YES to all of the items listed and then some.

The State of Hawaii cannot and should not change laws, definitions, and mission statements just to fit the needs of foreign desires. The bottom line is this: The top of Mauna Kea, the TMK of which we speak, is ZONED CONSERVATION. That is the bottom line. Thirteen (13) telescopes situated in an area that is zoned Conservation is an atrocity and a blatant violation of your own land use laws.

Let us return to the **true meaning of Conservation** for what it was intended.

Therefore, I humbly ask for your support to grant Mr. & Mrs. Kanahale petition for a Declaration Order Concerning the invalid classification of the de facto and improper industrial use precinct.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide and submit written testimony.

Respectfully,

Lehua Kaulukukui, Kumu Hula & Native Hawaiian Cultural Practitioner and Beneficiary