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## RESOLUTION TO PROTECT MAUNAKEA

**WHEREAS**, Maunakea is located on the Big Island Hawai'i, a dormant volcano that rises 13,796 feet above the sea level and over 33,000 feet from its ocean base, making it the tallest land mass in the world;

**WHEREAS**, Maunakea is located in a conservation district on Hawaiian ceded land;

**WHEREAS**, Maunakea has been the site of an indigenous lands protest since 2014, where a proposed thirty meter telescope (TMT) 98-foot diameter prime mirror, was to be constructed;

**WHEREAS**, Maunakea is considered by indigenous Hawaiians to be the most sacred of all lands, home to the god Wakea (Sky Father) who with Papahānaumoku gave birth to the islands of Hawai'i and the first man;

**WHEREAS**, Maunakea is also the home of the goddesses Poli'ahu, Lilinoe and Waiau;

**WHEREAS**, on July 15, 2019, 500 people peacefully occupied the Maunakea entrance when construction crews of the TMT attempted to move equipment up to the Mauna to begin construction and where 33 Native Hawaiian Kūpuna (elders) were arrested igniting thousands of Native Hawaiians on all islands to join the protectors rallying to keep Maunakea sacred;

**WHEREAS**, Native Hawaiians are taking a stand to protect the Mauna (mountain) 'āina (land), and wai (water); having a genealogical connection to the Mauna;

**WHEREAS**, Maunakea is referred to as our Kūpuna, our Ancestor, our Protector, and our Guide and where Native Hawaiians for the last 10 years have held off the building of the 18-story TMT telescope which is supported by Canada, Japan, China and the U.S. along with the Moore Foundation in Palo Alto, California, a major donor;

**WHEREAS**, there exists 13 other telescopes on the summit of Maunakea in a conservation district;

**WHEREAS**, two of the thirteen other telescopes are not functioning, but have not been taken down;

**WHEREAS**, Native people and the worldwide community are standing up for our Sacred land base, oceans and the integrity of water;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that APALA send a letter of support for the Ku Kia'i Mauna to Gov Ige, Mayor Harry Kim, University of Hawaii, and TMT, constitutional rights to assembly and political free speech, Hawaiian cultural practitioners in their vital practices, and public access, recreation, and enjoyment of the pristine environs of Mauna Kea and support Native Hawaiians' peaceful and non-violent actions to protect the Mauna;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, it is the stance of this organization that the construction of this telescope would result in the desecration of this sacred cultural site and its original Native Hawaiian overseers. APALA urges the

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exploration of alternative locations for this project that do not violate the sovereignty of AAPI members of their culture.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we firmly ask Governor Ige to use restraint in declaring a state of emergency to expedite the building of the TMT. An emergency proclamation should be used to protect the residents' safety, not disperse demonstrators exercising their right to assemble peacefully.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that APALA National and Chapters will consider a donation to Kahea – The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance, an organization that takes up issues of social and environmental justice;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that APALA National and Alameda APALA will reach out to Native Hawaiian leadership in the struggle to protect Maunakea and strive to build a long-lasting relationship of solidarity.

*Respectfully submitted by Josie Camacho & Joe Ku'e Angeles, Alameda APALA Chapter Pacific Islanders*