



Photo credit: Andrew Cooper

MAUNAKEA WORKING GROUP BILL HB2024

ABOUT

- Establishes a **new Authority** with land disposition powers, i.e. granting leases
 - **Mutual stewardship paradigm.** Astronomy is declared a policy of the state consistent with this paradigm.
 - **11 members:** BLNR Chair, Hawai'i County Mayor, UH Regents Chair, land resource expert, education expert, Maunakea Observatories representative, business/finance expert, lineal descendant of Maunakea practitioner, recognized cultural practitioner, House-appointed member, Senate-appointed member, and UH Hilo Chancellor (non-voting)
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- **Grounded in Hawaiian values:**
 - **Mauna Aloha:** Commitment to maintaining the integrity of the mauna.
 - **Opu Kupuna:** Duty and accountability to Maunakea, and to perpetuate Native Hawaiian practices.
 - **Holomua Oi Kelakela:** Stewardship informed by traditional as well as new knowledge without jeopardizing the cultural foundation.
 - 5-year transition completed in 2028. **Moratorium on new leases** during transition
 - Establishes **limitations on astronomy development**, prioritizes re-use over developing new sites, and sets principles for returning land to its natural state when observatories are decommissioned or no longer have research or educational value
 - Reserves a **minimum of 7% observing time for UH**, prioritizing programs that involve Hawai'i students or projects curated by 'Imiloa Astronomy Center
 - Authority may **establish admin rules**
 - **Subject to land-use and administrative laws** of the state. For example, contested cases apply
 - **Timely decommissioning** of CSO and Hōkū Kea
 - \$14M appropriation for **transition planning** and hiring of secretary to the Authority
 - \$350K for 'Imiloa Astronomy Center for **K-12 public education programs** in astronomy-related fields