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I am a mother with small children, the wife of an immigrant, the family member of a Mainer who is Palestinian, and the friend of many Muslims. This past year and a half has been terrifying and horrifying for so many people, and the people of Gaza, the mothers and parents in Gaza, the children in Gaza continue to be murdered. Children. We talk a lot about rights in our family, and teach our children that every child's life matters. No one life is more important than another, and every life is worth protecting. Every single life. The life of a Palestinian child, a Muslim child, an Arab child, is precious and magical. How do I answer my children's questions about why not all people believe that? What do I tell them when they ask me if the kids in Palestine are safe yet, and why our leaders aren't doing everything in their power to keep them alive? How can it be that to simply condemn the acts of a government, a military, to recognize and acknowledge the horror that has taken place in Palestine is anything but an act of love, a plea, a desperate call to protect all children. Why is it OK to condemn one genocide and not another? The weaponization of Antisemitism intensifies discrimination and exclusion of vulnerable communities in this country. Holding hands with ALL makes us ALL safer. No one is safer when we silence and disappear those who dare to share their own story of grief, pain, horror as they watch members of their family, friends, community slaughtered and wiped out. No one is safer when we fail to learn from history. No one is safer if we allow this bill to pass. No one is safer.