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Hello I am a very concerned Jewish resident of Portland writing in to urge opposition to this bill. I am sure you are receiving similar testimonies to this one but I will reiterate and reaffirm these points:

- The IHRA definition of antisemitism conflates criticism of Israel and Zionism with anti-semitism, which would greatly infringe on free speech and our collective ability to help hold governments, like Israel, accountable.
- The weaponization of antisemitism intensifies discrimination and exclusion of vulnerable communities in the U.S.—including Jews.
- The Trump administration and those who support supremacist ideologies are actively trying to suppress free speech and the peaceful right to protest and this attack on free speech should not come to Maine.

As a Jewish person I find the conflation of antisemitism and criticism of the state of Israel's actions extremely inappropriate, harmful, and off base. I have been called antisemitic by people in my life who I love simply for my refusal to accept the Israeli government's mass killing, displacement, and disenfranchisement of Palestinians for over 7 decades. As a Jewish person who is proud to be Jewish, loves being Jewish and loves Jewish people I wholeheartedly rebuke that I myself am antisemitic. Please do not let the state of Maine fall into this conflation of two very separate concepts.