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LD 1383

LD 1383, An Act To Require the State to Divest Itself of Assets Invested in Corporations That Contribute to Genocide and Human Rights Abuses

Thank you Senators, Representatives, and honorable members of the Committee for giving me the time to speak today. My name is Katherine Moncure and I'm a resident of Portland. I'm here to express my support for LD 1383 to prohibit the state of Maine from investing state resources into companies that abuse human rights, including war crimes and genocide.

As a daughter of a public school teacher, I know how important it is for public employees to have a stable and profitable pension fund. My own mom is retired, and I'm extremely grateful that she has the stability to live a comfortable life after many grueling years of working in education.

However, I would also assume that most of these individuals, including people like my mom, did not choose to dedicate their careers to public service with the knowledge that their retirements are partially funded by corporations that actively harm the public. These two incentives are completely at odds.

When you think about which side of history you want to be on, and which side of history all public employees sit on, please choose the actions that support all human rights and dignity. I strongly urge you to support this bill. Thank you for your time.