

Azalea Cormier  
Buckfield  
LD 1383

As a constituent, I would like to urge the committee to vote for this bill to pass.

I know the primary example that comes to many minds is the genocide/ethnic cleansing project that Israel is currently committing against Palestinians, which is appropriate as billions of our Federal tax dollars

[[www.cfr.org/articles/us-aid-israel-four-charts](http://www.cfr.org/articles/us-aid-israel-four-charts)] have enabled nearly the entirety of the Gaza Strip to be leveled since 2023

[[www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-217c6a28-4a90-4d47-a91c-13113a7dc7db](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-217c6a28-4a90-4d47-a91c-13113a7dc7db)],

Israeli settlers continue to move into and occupy the West Bank

[[www.timesofisrael.com/idf-settler-violence-rose-by-27-in-2025-severe-attacks-spike-d-by-over-50/](http://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-settler-violence-rose-by-27-in-2025-severe-attacks-spike-d-by-over-50/),

[apnews.com/article/israel-settlers-west-bank-ad62cc10b512a607aee77cc91873519f](http://apnews.com/article/israel-settlers-west-bank-ad62cc10b512a607aee77cc91873519f),

[www.theguardian.com/world/2026/jan/06/israel-vast-illegal-settlement-west-bank](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/jan/06/israel-vast-illegal-settlement-west-bank)],

and most recently, reports of over 400 Palestinians and 3 Israeli soldiers have been killed since the

"ceasefire." [[reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-strikes-kill-five-gaza-say-local-health-authorities-2026-01-15/](http://reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-strikes-kill-five-gaza-say-local-health-authorities-2026-01-15/)]

However, we must also consider the previous injustices that have been funded blindly by employees of the state, as well as preventing future instances. Our State and its employees deserve to no longer have to consider how their hard-earned dollars could be perpetuating any antihumanist actions, over which they already have little individual control.

While there may be argument for a compromise, I believe we should save the State time from even compromising to have a checkbox on the retirement portal (or wherever applicable) that says "Would you like to divest your dollars from States that have committed the crime of apartheid, ethnic cleansing, genocide or a war crime?" Let us take a unified stand that growth of wealth is not justification for supporting these atrocities. Thank you.