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Portland
LD 1383

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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 to Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and honorable members of the Committee. My name is Erica Paul, and I am a resident of Portland. I am here to support LD1383 to prohibit the state of Maine from investing state resources into and generating profits from corporations that abuse human rights.

I am an early childhood educator, and I believe that all children deserve safety, kindness, and family. Currently, the Maine state pension fund invests in corporations that make profit off of current genocides and corporations that fuel the majority of ICE deportation flights, such as Palantir and Signature Aviations. Therefore, the Maine Public Employees Retirement System holds stock in companies that are depriving children of safety, kindness, and family. By divesting from these and other such holdings, Maine can support children and families rather than be complicit in violations of human rights.

With LD1383, investments that support any country committing grave human rights violations would be illegal. Supporting it will align our state's values with how its money is spent.

I strongly recommend that you support this bill. Thank you for your time.