

Hello,

I am a resident of Bath, and today I am testifying in support of LD 1383.

I am a U.S. citizen and an immigrant from Colombia who has found in Maine a peaceful and welcoming place to raise my child. I am deeply saddened by the level of violence being directed toward both immigrants and Americans by groups backed at the federal level. In situations like this, it feels inevitable that I—or my family—will eventually face this violence simply because I speak Spanish to my son, which can become an excuse for abuse.

My heart sinks every time I see what is happening on the streets of Portland, and what may soon be expected in neighboring Lewiston and other communities across Maine. Violence is always driven by profit. We must be clear that support for violent groups often originates with companies that profit from human suffering, both domestically and internationally.

For these reasons, I urge you to pass LD 1383 to ensure that Maine's pension funds are divested from companies that prioritize profit over the protection of human rights. Thank you.