

# Meaning of Credible

Testimony January 21, 2026 before Committee on State and Local Government of the Maine State Legislature

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury members of the committee my name is Ivan G Most, ScD, I live in Old Orchard Beach and I am a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern Maine. I am here to speak in opposition to Bill LD 1383.

In section 1B3 of the bill the word credible is used to describe organizations that can be a source of information on countries and organizations that are human rights violators. What do we mean by a *Credible Source*?

The dictionary definition of credible “able to be believed; convincing” yields an important criteria to consider when making evaluations that will affect the retirement income of government employees.

The organizations mentioned in the text of the bill are the United Nations and Amnesty International. Well let's examine the decisions made by these organizations and determine if they are credible. Do they have members that can examine evidence in an unbiased manner and determine guilt or innocence?

I would argue by the nature of their membership and by their past rulings these organizations are biased. Are these organizations credible? Well let's consider these facts about each of them

## **United Nations**

“UN Secretary-General admitted in 2025 that Israel suffers from UN “bias” and even “discrimination.”

Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in June 2004: “The UN's own record on anti-Semitism has at times fallen short of the Organization's ideals...the General Assembly resolution of 1975, equating Zionism with racism, was an especially unfortunate decision. I am glad that it has since been rescinded.”

## **Amnesty International**

Amnesty USA's Executive Director was widely condemned for antisemitism after claiming that Israel "shouldn't exist as a Jewish state.”

## **Human Rights Watch**

According to Danielle Haas, former Senior Editor at Human Rights Watch (HRW), the group's work, "frequently violated basic editorial standards related to rigor, balance, and collegiality, when it comes to Israel."

While the bill you are considering does not name any company or country, it involves the state of Maine in issues that are not the province of the state government using methods that are directed to a specific result. You can get any result you want in an investigation as long as the process is rigged; using sources that are not credible rigs the result.

