

01/21/2026

*LD 1383, An Act to Require State Divestment from Perpetrators of International Human Rights Violations*

Hello and good morning to the Committee and all present, my name is Vivianne Courant, I am in Portland, and I strongly support LD1383. I personally believe this bill to be an example of objective decency and common sense. Maine's pension fund should not be investing in human rights violations. The genocide in Gaza is precisely that, and Mainers know it. I have seen my neighbors across the state call attention to Palestine for years; there has not been a week since 2023 that I haven't seen people all across the state holding signs on the streets for Gaza, etc... Maine's pension fund should not be investing in corporations funding immigration enforcement either; aside from the fact that companies currently being invested in negatively impact all Mainers, such as Palantir blatantly stating they intend to create surveillance profiles on every American, a move I hope most people would agree to be an egregious violation of personal liberty and freedom, these companies ultimately do not deserve our investment as ICE does not have a place in our community. Our immigrant neighbors are not a danger to us. As a white Mainer, I have never missed out on an opportunity because someone from away took it. I have not been harassed, I have not felt unsafe, neither I nor anyone I know have had their lives negatively impacted by immigration in Maine. Our neighbors, ALL of them, keep our community running, and NONE of them deserve the harassment and targeting we've witnessed from ICE. Please do right by all Mainers and pass LD1383; divest from those who would see our community wounded. Thank you very much for your time.