



January 21st, 2026

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and honorable members of the Committee on State and Local Government,

My name is Phoebe Dolan and I am here as a representative of Maine Youth Power and a resident of Belfast, Maine. Maine Youth Power is a movement of young Mainers building power to win human dignity, equity, access and a livable future across rural and suburban Maine.

I am here to ask you to support LD1383: An Act to Require State Divestment from Perpetrators of International Human Rights Violations. Maine should be leading the way in making sure our money and the money of the state employees does not contribute to companies that perpetrate genocide and violence across the world and within our own state. It is in Maine Youth Power's mission that young people here in Maine should have dignified lives and we extend that to all young people affected by Maine's politics and investments. We need to stop investing in senseless violence.

A few of our members are employees of the state of Maine and they each shared with me why they are in support of the bill. Neither of them could be present today so I include the following statements at their request.

Oona Molyneaux is a state employee she says "I am from East Machias, Maine, and as a Maine state employee, I care deeply about supporting my community. I urge the committee to pass LD1383, so that my investment in Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MainePERS) does not fund any violation of human rights across any community. My best friend goes for her immigration interview in a couple weeks and she should not have to worry about being disturbed by federal agents while she follows the appropriate process for becoming a U.S. Citizen. As ICE enters our cities in increasing numbers, targeting people of color, and New Mainers, it is crucial for Maine to divest from any funding that supports these racist attacks."

Dawson Burnett is also a state employee and he says "I am a state employee, and I am writing in favor of LD1383. The state of Maine must divest from any and all assets tied to genocide and human rights abuses. It is deeply troubling that our pensions as state employees are tied to such assets against our will. As a Mainer and state employee, I believe that divestment from any company profiting from, or directly aiding and abetting genocide and human rights abuses is the clear choice. Maine has chosen to divest in line with our shared values in the past, and the time has come to do this again."

Support LD1383: An Act to Require State Divestment from Perpetrators of International Human Rights Violations

Thank you for your time,
Phoebe Dolan