

Sue Anderson
Portland
LD 1383
1/21/26

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 Sue Andersen. I am a resident of Portland and a teacher at Deering High School in Portland.

I support LD 1383. I am an ESOL teacher who has taught students who have fled countries that violate human rights abuses, and was horrified to learn that MainePERS, my pension plan, holds stock in companies whose products are used by human rights abusers. Are my retirement investments supporting atrocities in my students' home countries? Are my retirement investments funding the deportation machine that is terrorizing my students' families right now? They may be, and this must end. I strive every day to bring peace into my classroom and the world, and want my retirement to align with my values.

I do not want my retirement to be funded by profits from genocide and detention of our neighbors, and I do not want my state to be complicit with human rights abuses. Please support LD 1383 to stop Maine from investing in Signature Aviation, which fuels ICE deportation flights, Palantir, which uses AI and surveillance to support deportation at home and genocides abroad, and Boeing, which supplies weapons of war used against civilians around the world.

I want Maine to be a leader in the promotion of peace and responsible investment. Please support 1383 to make that possible. Thank you for your time.