

Michaela Cavallaro  
Portland  
LD 1383

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and Members of the Committee on State and Local Government, I'm Michaela Cavallaro, I live in Portland, and I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 1383.

Maine's money—and especially the retirement savings of our educators and public servants—should be a force for good in the world, in alignment with our values. That's why LD 1383 is so essential, as it would require the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MPERS) to divest from holdings in companies that contribute directly to genocide and the detention of our neighbors.

Current holdings such as Signature Aviation, Palantir and Boeing fund ICE deportation flights, surveillance technology that leads to deportation at home and genocide abroad, and weapons of war used against civilians around the world. These investments do not represent the will of Maine people, nor do they represent us well on the international stage.

MPERS staff has already begun divesting from fossil fuels in response to similar legislation four years ago—with no negative impact on the investment portfolio that will support our friends' and neighbors' retirement (not to mention the state's economy) in the years to come.

In my personal life, I frequently making purchasing and investing decisions based on my values. I urge MPERS to do the same. Please vote Ought to Pass on LD 1383.

Thank you,  
Michaela Cavallaro  
Portland ME