

Gwendolyn Forrest
Portland
LD 1383

Dear Committee on State and Local Government,

My name is Gwendolyn Forrest, I am a resident of Portland, and I am urging you today to support LD 1383: Act to Require State Divestment from Perpetrators of International Human Rights Violations.

In my work in partnership with immigrant-led organizations and communities in Maine, I have seen firsthand the detrimental affect of human rights abuses both abroad and here. We have an ethical obligation to ensure that state funds do not go towards funding such abuses anywhere. Taking this step does not put us at financial risk, but in fact removes us from being at legal risk for our part in supporting such abuses.

I urge you to take to heart the testimony you are hearing today and to support LD 1383.

With appreciation,
Gwendolyn Forrest