

Testimony in Support of LD 1383 An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in Corporations That Contribute to Genocide and Human Rights Abuses

To: Co-Chairs Senator Baldacci and Representative Salisbury and members of the Committee on State and Local Government

From: Claire Horne

January 21, 2026

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Baldacci and Representative Salisbury and members of the Committee on State and Local Government,

My name is Claire Horne. I am a resident of Appleton, ME, and I am writing to you to share my support for LD 1383: An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in Corporations That Contribute to Genocide and Human Rights Abuses.

LD 1383 details a key way that our state can withdraw support for companies that contribute to and profit from human rights abuses and genocide. As a descendant of survivors of the Armenian genocide, it is important to me personally that states and governments oppose the genocides that are happening today, and work to financially drain the companies that profit from the immense suffering, death, and cruelty. There are several of these companies that Maine is invested in, including Boeing, which produces bombs that are used to kill and maim people, destroy homes and cities, and poison land, air, and water, leading to the acceleration of climate collapse. Another example is Signature Aviation, which is profiting from flying Mainers to detention centers out of state, making it more difficult for individuals to have contact with their families or legal representation and easier for their rights to be violated.

Companies that produce the tools of genocide and profit from other human rights abuses unfortunately have a lot of wealth and power. Much of that wealth and power is due to so much capital being invested in these companies. Directing state investments away from such companies is an important way to reclaim agency and stop our state from being complicit in funding crimes against humanity.

I am proud and glad that Maine has historically taken a stand against human rights violations through divestment, as it did in response to Apartheid in South Africa, and the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. LD 1383 outlines how Maine can be consistent in ensuring investments are in line with respecting human rights globally, now and in the future.

I appreciate you reading my testimony. Thanks for your continued work, and I hope you will support LD 1383 for the good of humankind.

Sincerely,

Claire Horne

Appleton, ME

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Appleton
LD 1383

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