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LD 1383

Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, Members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Griffin Kim, I live in Glen Ridge, New Jersey and Lewiston, Maine, and I am a student of Bates College and a member of Students Demand Action. I am writing in support of LD 1383 to pass this act that will require Maine to divest from companies that fund international genocides and ICE's domestic atrocities.

There is no other word for what has been happening in Gaza and the West Bank. It is a genocide conducted by the state of Israel against the Palestinian people. If we financially support the companies that fund this genocide, we are responsible for what is happening. I believe there is but one thing left to say on this matter. Not long ago, less than a century, the whole world said never again.

The actions of ICE against the American people have been disgusting, inhumane, unconstitutional, authoritarian, fascistic, and anti-American. Any organization that abducts people off the street, attacks schools and churches, and brutally kills an unarmed mother of three is not an organization that any American should support. The killing of Renee Good is unforgivable, plain and simple. It is just one of many unforgivable crimes against America and her people that have been enacted by ICE. ICE kills American citizens under the guise of protecting them from a threat that does not exist. ICE ignores due process, it was never about getting rid of criminals. ICE attacks schools and churches, it was never about getting rid of criminals. ICE kills an unarmed, nonhostile, noncriminal American citizen in broad daylight, it was never about getting rid of criminals.

This bill will, even in a relatively small way, diminish funding for these foreign and domestic atrocities. It may even help to set an example, leading to other states passing similar acts. We cannot let ourselves be complacent. For those of us with privilege, for those of us with power, it is our unwavering responsibility to do what is right.

Passing this act is the inarguably right thing to do.

Thank you for hearing my testimony. Sincerely, Griffin Kim.