Margaret Purdy
Portland
LD 1383

LD 1383 - An Act to Require State Divestment from Perpetrators of International Human Rights Violations

January 21, 2026

Dear Members of the Committee on State and Local Government,

My name is Margaret Purdy and I am writing to you from Portland to assert my support of the passage of LD 1383, which would prevent our state funds from being used to enrich companies involved in human rights abuses.

As a concerned citizen, I highly value our state employees and appreciate the work they do to keep our state running, our people safe and educated, and our nature pristine. So I was horrified to learn that their pension funds have been invested in companies such as Palantir, which is engaging in artificial intelligence and surveillance activity that is diametrically opposed to those goals. By investing the pension funds in companies that are using those funds to support deportations and violence against people in Maine an elsewhere, the state is undermining the very work these employees do to keep us safe and well.

Not only is divesting the right thing to do, it's also the responsible thing to do. Palantir is an AI company, and I have read much reporting, including a recent piece by Carmen Reinicke for Bloomberg, that highlights just how volatile the AI industry is and how incredibly risky it is to invest in it. These hard working state employees deserve a fully-funded pension fund, not a risky investment.

With all that in mind, I urge you to support this bill. Thank you very much.