

January 19, 2026

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

Thank you Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and honorable members of the Committee for taking my words into consideration. My name is Bella Salman, a student of College of the Atlantic and a resident of Penobscot Maine. I am writing in support of LD1383 to rescind our state support of and financial benefit from companies which are complicit in human rights violations and acts of genocide.

As a citizen and taxpayer of Maine, it is incredibly important to me where my tax dollars go. It is also incredibly important to me to live in a community where all feel safe, and secure, and where we are not threatened by undue legal process and police violence. Currently, my tax dollars are being invested in corporations such as Palantir and Signature Aviations, which are contributing to illegal deportations of people at the hands of ICE, and Boeing which supplies weapons of war which are used to maim and kill civilians worldwide. When I watch footage of the genocide in Palestine, or see mothers and fathers ripped from their children, I do not want to feel that I am contributing financially to these brutal acts. Additionally, investing in such companies puts the state at legal risk of accomplice or contribution liability for international crimes committed with their provided funds under the International Court of Justice.

Already Maine state leaders have taken affirmative action to protect our state citizens through LD1971, *An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities*. Maine Senator Angus King has stood with International law against President Trump's proposal to annex Greenland. Portland mayor Mike Dion has issued a statement of support to Portland residents in response to ICE's planned arrival in the city next week. These are all acts I can be proud of, and make clear to me that Maine stands with peace and safety for all. I see the next step forward to be divestment from companies which are contributing to such criminal acts. With LD1383, Maine would rescind support from any country committing grave human rights, allowing us to move one step closer to upholding these ideals.

I strongly encourage you to support this bill. Thank you.