

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

21 January 2026

Dear Chairs Baldacci and Salisbury and respected members of the committee,

My name is Julia Asami Smith and I reside in Portland. I am writing to you in support of LD 1383, An Act to Require State Divestment from Perpetrators of International Human Rights Violations.

My neighbors and my community are currently very scared. The future, especially for my peers in their twenties and younger, feels bleak and beyond our control. We are appalled by the unfettered surveillance capabilities and unimaginable amounts of wealth in companies that provide the tools for genocide and mass detention. As young, working-class constituents, we feel powerless next to the resources and influence of these corporations like Palantir and Lockheed Martin.

I see LD 1383 as an opportunity to prove that Mainers do have power. We have the power to prioritize ethics over our wallets. We have the power to reject the notion that our future can only be built upon mass surveillance and violent conflict. We have the power to prove the motto of our state, *Dirigo*, and set a national precedent to reject profit from human suffering. Passing LD 1383 is the first step toward creating a future for Mainers that is not built upon international suffering and warmongering.

Thank you for your time and attention. I urge you to choose a more hopeful future for Mainers; I urge you to support LD 1383.

Sincerely,  
Julia Asami Smith