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LD 1383

Thank you Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and honorable members of the Committee for allowing me to speak today.

My name is Sarah Snyder and I'm a resident of South Portland. What a day to be in this hearing together with all of you. Right now, in this moment in history in this country, and here in Maine, we are witnessing immense violence to our friends and neighbors. We are witnessing what happens when corporate profits and violent militarism are deeply entangled, with regular people in our communities horrifically caught in the middle.

This very week, as ICE activity steeply escalates in our state, I fear for loved ones and neighbors being racially profiled, abducted into unmarked cars, assaulted, and disappeared from their families. As a healthcare provider, it is unacceptable that our government is inflicting a situation of so much fear and trauma, where people aren't safe to leave their homes for medical care, let alone at all, and where kids aren't going to school because getting there and back would put their lives at risk. As a Jewish person, I grew up with an unshakable knowing that being abducted and thrown into camps, that genocide, must never happen again to anyone. No matter who is at the top of the list, we all have an obligation to each other as humans to ensure that everyone in our community is safe and protected.

The violence inflicted by ICE makes no one safer, and is only possible with technologies and equipment from companies that our state is currently investing in. We are watching these companies take part in atrocities not only here, but in human rights abuses around the world. I show up here with faith in you all as committee members, knowing you are here to serve the public and support communities in Maine. Thank you for voting with your humanity and supporting LD1383.