

Jennifer Temple
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LD 1383

Members of the State and Local Govt Committee,

As the daughter of two now-retired state employees (teachers), both of whom live off their pensions, I understand the importance of managing retirement investments effectively.

I'm writing to ask that you pass LD 1383 so that we can be proud of how we grow the retirement funds of our hardworking state employees.

We have an ethical obligation.

I want my state to align with my principles of peace and safety for all. Our state money should be a force for good in the world, not used to fuel corporations that aid the detention of our neighbors and genocide.

In my own retirement investments, I invest in socially responsible mutual funds. They consistently outperform investments that fund human rights abuses. In fact, I'm not asking MPERs to do anything they haven't already done. Since Maine passed a fossil fuel divestment bill four years ago, MPERs have reduced its fossil fuel exposure by half (7.8% to 3.9%) and the portfolio has grown by over \$1 billion dollars.

Divestment is not a financial risk. It's a win-win.

I urge you to vote that LD 1383 "Ought to pass".

Thank you for your hard work.