

Dear Honorable Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Philip Ateto and I am a lifelong Marylander, currently residing in Annapolis, in Anne Arundel County. I am writing in support of support of **HB 1184 – Nonprofit Organizations - Unauthorized Support of Israeli Settlement Activity (Not On Our Dime Act)**

I am writing because it is unacceptable for our state to be collaborating with entities that are assisting in land theft and illegal settlements that violate the Geneva Convention.

I support **HB 1184** because for far too long the state of Israel has been allowed by our country to continually openly violate international law and give away land that is not theirs as found by the United Nations. As a country that was founded on land theft, we should know better than to not only allow this to happen, but assist the country that is perpetrating this injustice.

Imagine if someone showed up to your house, where you have been living for decades or even longer, and told you that land and home were no longer yours and you have to leave immediately or be evicted or killed. It sounds ludicrous but this is what has been happening to Palestinians for decades and it must stop and we cannot play a part of that in any way if we claim to have any morals or conscious.

It seems the tides are finally turning on public sentiment toward Israel's illegal and inhumane actions in Palestine and it is passed time for us to get on the right side of history.

For these reasons and many more, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report** on **HB 1184**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.