

March 9, 2026

Re: Testimony In Support of HB1184 - Not On Our Dime Act

Position: FAVORABLE

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Katie Kretler and I am a resident of Anne Arundel County. I write today to ask you to find a favorable position for HB1184, the Not On Our Dime Act.

HB1184 outlines important distinctions for Maryland charities, It strengthens the integrity of charitable giving by ensuring that organizations that operate with a tax-exempt status are held to standards of ethical importance.

Organizations that claim tax-exempt status do not, sadly, always act within the bounds of international law, and they are not always held accountable for these actions. HB1184 would increase the transparency and accountability of Maryland nonprofits while also safeguarding fundamental human rights.

HB1184 seeks to limit Marylanders' monetary donations to the ongoing forcible displacement of, and violence against, Palestinians in the occupied West Bank. In a press release from The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Action dated September 18, 2023, that year was the deadliest year on record for Palestinian children in the West Bank with over one child per week being killed by settler violence. The retaliation to the attacks on October 7, 2023 have been a front for continued land theft and violence, and it is unconscionable that there are charities that can aid in this endeavor.

Our charitable donations to nonprofits should never be used to perpetuate violations of international law. Help protect Maryland's spirit of solidarity and ensure that this basic tenet of neighborliness is upheld by passing HB1184.

Katie Kretler
Arnold, MD

Source link cited above:

<https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/2023-marks-deadliest-year-record-children-occupied-west-bank>