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*Environmental Services*  
707-822-8184

*Police*  
707-822-2428

*Recreation*  
707-822-7091

*Community Development*  
707-822-5955

*Finance*  
707-822-5951

*Engineering*  
707-825-2128

*Transportation*  
707-822-3775

September 15, 2025

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Arcata, we write to express our deep concern with CalPERS' financial investments in companies complicit in human rights violations, particularly those profiting from the ongoing human rights violations and famine in Gaza, and war profiteering in general.

The City of Arcata has long upheld Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) preferences, excluding investments in corporations engaged in fossil fuel extraction, tobacco, nuclear weapons, nuclear energy, ecological degradation, or violations of workers' and human rights. We also reject investments in corporations that profit from for-profit prisons and immigration detention centers, which perpetuate cycles of injustice and human suffering. We believe CalPERS should uphold similar values and ensure its investments do not contribute to systemic harm, displacement, and violations of basic human rights.

CalPERS has a record of principled action, including previous divestments from tobacco, firearms, coal, and companies tied to human rights violations across the globe. Just as institutions worldwide supported economic sanctions against South Africa's apartheid regime, we now urge CalPERS to divest from companies enabling these same abuses in Gaza and other regions impacted by state violence and exploitation.

We call upon CalPERS to take immediate action to:

1. Divest from companies and bonds that profit from weapons manufacturing, human rights violations, for-profit prisons, and immigration detention centers.
2. Reinvest in ethical and socially responsible funds aligned with justice, sustainability, and human rights.
3. Commit to a reasonable timeline for divestment and reinvestment.
4. Provide transparent and ongoing reporting on divestment progress.

CalPERS has the opportunity to lead by example and align its investments with values of justice, equity, and responsibility. We urge you to act promptly and responsibly.

Sarah Schaefer  
Councilmember, City of Arcata