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Last week, A06943 was introduced in the New York Assembly. It is fundamentally unserious as a legislative proposal, and it has **no chance of passage**.

To be explicit, **I would never vote for this bill**.

While I generally do not comment on bills that are going nowhere, constituents have pointed out this could be used as a model for bills elsewhere. Because of that, I want to point out just some of the *many* things I find particularly objectionable about this legislation.

First and foremost, the bill targets the actions of one specific country: Israel. It is not aimed at improving regulations of nonprofits broadly, or even applying standards which would apply across the board; we already have laws preventing nonprofits from engaging in illegal activity. This bill singularly applies to organizations providing aid to a specific country and its people. **This is immediately suspicious**.

Second, it allows a private right to action, meaning anyone can sue a nonprofit providing aid — not just the New York Attorney General or other government agencies — **anyone**. This would enable a torrent of lawsuits, *merited or not*, to be filed by those with an ideological ax to grind. While private rights of action are occasionally appropriate, there is no adequate justification as to why it is necessary here.

Third, it allows people to sue nonprofits that are based in New York, based in other states, or even based internationally. The bill therefore would give New York State courts jurisdiction over worldwide affairs.

Imagine how *you* would feel if the roles were reversed with a foreign government; for example, consider if a Canadian province allowed individuals to sue an organization you are a member of in Canadian courts. This is well beyond the scope of our state's laws.

Fourth, it holds nonprofit trustees, directors, and managers personally liable for the lawsuits, and it imposes a minimum fine of \$1 million. Imposing a *minimum* fine of that magnitude on individuals, *especially nonprofit employees*, is unprecedented. For reference, even major corporate executives are not subject to this level of individual scrutiny and punishment.

Fifth, it provides for a 10-year statute of limitations, allowing the threat of lawsuits to hang over previous actions. Most civil law statutes of limitations are around three years, creating an absurdity where someone physically harmed in New York can only sue for three years, but someone can sue a charity for actions abroad for 10.

In the final weeks of the legislative session, I remain focused on legislation designed to help my constituents and New Yorkers broadly. This legislation is unserious – and should be prevented from becoming a dangerous precedent.

Sincerely,

Alex Bores
Assemblymember for the 73rd District