

# WASHTENAW COUNTY COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID

4316 Michigan Union  
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Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Legislation prohibiting the investment of certain state funds in corporations doing business in South Africa will reach the floor of the house in the near future. These bills would require divestment of state employees pension funds, state college investment portfolios and surplus state funds in corporations which maintain South African operations, or banks which make loans to South Africa.

The issue of corporate responsibility is of great concern to all working people, especially those victims of runaway shops in Michigan, Ohio and other industrial states. A major reason for runaway shops is the corporate search for easy profits. During the past decade U.S. companies have tripled their investments in South Africa, taking advantage of its "good business climate". The cheap labor and raw materials available in South Africa depend on the calculated subjugation of the vast majority by a small minority, strictly on the basis of race. These investments have occurred despite, or perhaps because of, an escalation of repression against the black majority.

This legislation will insure that state workers retirement funds are not used to support apartheid, and will show university administrations that the students demands for divestment were just. The time has come for the people to serve notice on the multinationals that their irresponsible behavior will no longer be tolerated. The Washtenaw County Coalition Against Apartheid urges your local to pass a resolution in favor of House Bills #4831 and 4838, and by working actively for their passage. The Coalition will be pleased to be of assistance.

A lesson taught us from the early days of organizing is that no victory is ours without struggle, and no struggle succeeds without solidarity. Drake Koka, an exiled South African labor leader, speaking in the Nov. 78 issue of The U.A.W. magazine SOLIDARITY said; "Your union resolutions, your publicity can go a long way in putting pressure on the multinational corporations and on the apartheid government they support."

In Solidarity  
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