

# Social Justice Action

“Denouncing evil is a far cry from doing good.”

— Philip Gourevitch

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**If you have something YOU are passionate about, please tell us so we can spread the word.**

## **To Understand Rising Inequality, Consider the Janitors at Two Top Companies, Then and Now**

Focusing on core competence and outsourcing the rest has made U.S. companies lean, nimble and productive. It has also left lots of people worse off. [/nyti.ms/2x1YnuD](http://nyti.ms/2x1YnuD) See Sylvia if this interests you.

So this is how the Massachusetts legislative system works. Each session is two years in length – and we have elections every two years. In the first year (this last January), bills are introduced. We are now in the season of hearings on these bills. NEXT year will come the vote after the issues around these bills are ironed out (and amended). Here are upcoming sessions:

**Tues Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>:** [Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Hearing: S.1004/H.2365 Raise the Minimum Wage to \\$15](#), Gardner Auditorium 12:00 PM

**Tues Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>:** [Joint Committee on Telecommunication, Utilities and Energy H.2700/S.1876, Increase RPS and Ensure Compliance with GWSA & S1849 Transitioning to 100% Renewable, Room A2 at 1:00 PM](#)

**Tue Oct 3:** [Joint Committee on Telecommunication, Utilities and Energy S.1846/H.2706 Solar Power & the Green Economy](#), Sen. Eldridge/Rep. Mark [S.1831/H.3396 Solar Power in Environmental Justice and Urban Comm.](#), Sen. Chang Diaz/Rep. Holmes

**Tue Oct 17:** [Joint Committee on Telecommunication, Utilities and Energy S.1847/H.3400 Clarifying Authority & Responsibilities of DPU](#), Sen. Eldridge/ Rep. Kulik [S.1855/H.2698 Protect Ratepayers from Pipeline Expansion Costs](#), Sen. Jehlen/Rep. Gordon [S.1845/H.2683 Protect Consumers from Paying for Gas Leaks](#), Sen. Eldridge/Rep. Barber

See other side for more information

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“To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places—and there are so many—where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction.”

“And if we do act, in however small a way, we don’t have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.” -Howard Zinn

**There’s an absolutely fantastic interview with State Senator Brownsberger outlining the criminal justice initiatives in this legislative session.** [goo.gl/24HPoK](http://goo.gl/24HPoK)

Mark your calendar! Habitat for Humanity Build in Northborough. We, as a congregation, will work on Saturday October 21, to rehab a house for two families. Come be a part of this Social Justice effort.

Get a TREMENDOUS boost of enthusiasm and information about social justice at: <http://www.uumassaction.org/>

You can follow them on Facebook at [fb.me/1pPJ1Dghi](https://fb.me/1pPJ1Dghi)

Jerry Breecher is the editor of this Social Justice Action sheet. I welcome any and all notices you would like to place here. Inherent in any such listing as this is a point of view – your point of view may differ from mine, but I would be truly delighted to express your social action agenda here.

See other side for more information