

Social Justice Action

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

— Philip Gourevitch

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 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:

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 UU Mass Action for more information on these hearings.

The Massachusetts Ballot Initiative in Support of The 28th Amendment.

This Act establishes a non-partisan Citizens Commission to advance Massachusetts’ policy in favor of amending the U.S. Constitution to affirm that: • Corporations and other artificial entities do not possess the inalienable Constitutional rights of the People • Campaign contributions and spending can be regulated and limited in order to eliminate the undue influence of money on elections and government It is the intent of this Act:

• To protect the integrity and fairness of elections and government • To prevent corruption • To secure the right of all Americans to be represented and to participate in self-government as equal citizens We need to collect 65,000 signatures in 9 weeks between Sept. 20, 2017, and Nov. 22, 2017, to place this initiative on the Massachusetts ballot in 2018. Many volunteers will be needed to accomplish this important task and we need your help. Donna Scalcione will be in a Coffee Hour (at a Sunday SOON) to gather signatures for a petition to start an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to overturn the Citizens United ruling. The *People Govern, Not Money* group is behind this proposed Amendment, and I am helping collect signatures to get dark money out of our elections. You can learn more about this group at PeopleGovernNotMoney.org

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. You don’t need to be a carpentry whiz to do this – no tools required, only enthusiasm. Morning and afternoon shifts available.

When one of us is at risk of deportation, none of us are truly free and beloved. When policymakers target people who are served by programs like Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS), we refuse to be divided.

Our partners are calling us to take immediate action, knowing the defense of DACA recipients, the "Dreamers," is just one step in our work to ensure safety, dignity, and a clear path to residency and citizenship for all 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. Here are three things you can do today:

- 1) Fund Dreamer’s DACA Renewal Application Fees
- 2) Pass a Clean DACA Act. Your Congressional leaders are working with President Trump to make this happen.

For more information and to support, log on here → tinyurl.com/yaphrhjs

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.