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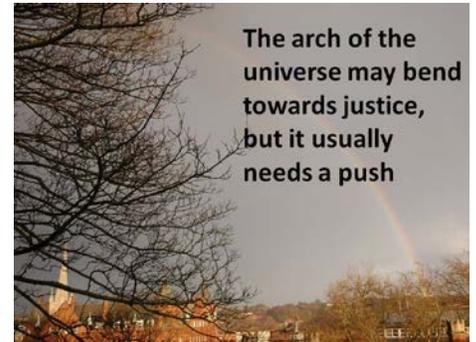
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## Take Action Today

### Hearings!

If you can show up, please do! If you can't make it in person, you can send in written testimony - here's what you need to know:



**Joint Committee on the Judiciary hearing **Mon June 5 at 1:00 PM****

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM **Hearing Room A1 / A2**  
(enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)

Priorities include: [Bills scheduled to be heard](#)

### **1. Invest In People, Not Prisons**

[S.791/H.2308 Justice Reinvestment Act](#), Sen. Chang Diaz/Rep. Keefe

### **3. End the Criminalization of Poverty & Addiction**

[S.834/H.3120 Pretrial Reform](#), Sen. Donnelly/Rep. Rogers

[S.777/H.2359 Reduce the Criminalization of Poverty](#), Sen. Brownsberger/Rep Tyler

[S.755/H.3077 Act Restricting Fine Time Sentences](#), Sen. Barrett/Rep. Keefe

### **6. End Criminalization of Youth and Support Alternatives to Incarceration**

[S.947/H.3079 Juvenile Justice Omnibus Bill](#), Sen. Spilka/Rep. Khan

Tips for written testimony, a [general guideline](#) If you'd like to submit testimony that supports all of these bills, speak to the main values (1,3,6) and then list the bills at the end of your letter.

**Public Safety & Homeland Security hearing, Fri June 9 at 10:00 AM**

Try to arrive no later than 9:00 PM. There will also be a rally outside on the State House steps at 12 noon  
**Hearing Room A1 /A2** (enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)  
The Safe Communities Act will be the only bill heard at this hearing!

**1. All People Should Be Valued & Honored**

[S.1305/H.3269 Safe Communities Act](#), Sen. Eldridge/Rep. Matias [Backgrounder](#) [Video Overview](#)

Our partners at [MIRA](#) have compiled excellent resources to help you prepare your testimony.

Click [HERE](#) for specific talking points and written testimony guidelines

**Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Tue June 13 at 1:00 PM**

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM **Hearing Room B2**  
(enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)  
Priorities Include: (full list TBD)

**2. Workers Should Not Have to Choose Between Their Job, Their Health or Their Love One's Health**

[S.1048/H.2172 Paid Family & Medical Leave](#), Sen. Spilka/Rep. Gordon

Join supporters for a briefing in Room 327 at 11:30. After this, there will be an opportunity for lobbying and then you can go to the hearing

**Joint Committee on the Judiciary hearing Mon June 19 at 1:00 PM**

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM **Hearing Room TBD**  
(enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)  
Priorities Include: (full list TBD)

**2. End Policies That Increase Incarcerations Rates**

[S.819/H.741 End Mandatory Minimums](#), Sen. Creem/Rep. Carvalho

**4. End Human Rights Abuses of People Who Are Incarcerated**

[S.1296/H.2248](#) Solitary Confinement Reform Sen. Creem/Rep. Balser

[S.1306/H.3071](#) Reduce Recidivism, Curb Unnecessary Spending and Appropriate Use of Segregation

Sen. Eldridge/Rep. Homes

[S.1286/H.3092](#), Data Collection Solitary Confinement, Sen. Chang Diaz/Rep. Markey

**Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce **Tue July 18, 1:00 PM****

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM

**Hearing Room B2** (enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)

Priorities Include: (full list TBD)

**1. People Working Full -Time Should Be Able To Meet Their Basic Economic Needs**

[S.1004/H.2365 Raise the Minimum Wage to \\$15](#), Sen. Donnelly/Rep. Donahue [“The Cliff Effect”](#)

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**Update on Haitian TPS**

On May 22, The Department of Homeland Security extended TPS for six months with the potential for an extension. While on the surface this may appear to be good news, it is not. This decision places thousands of people in limbo and our Haitian friends and neighbors face being returned to a country with an economic and social system that is unable to support the current population. In fact, many people in Haiti are surviving because of the support sent by their families in the US. The end of TPS will be catastrophic.



UU Mass Action and our partners at UUSC will continue to work with the organizing effort to oppose this decision and call for an 18-month extension. As more information becomes available, we will be sure to share it with you. For more information about the truth behind this decision, and the DHS probe into “criminal activity and use of public funds” [read this article by UndocuBlack and NILC](#)

Tia Oso, National Organizer at the Black Alliance for Just Immigration ([BAJI](#)), said:

“TPS for Haiti is a vital program, not just for the Haitian community, but for everyone that lives and works alongside them in Boston, Miami, Brooklyn and beyond. The Black Alliance for Just Immigration is calling on everyone to stand with the Haitian diaspora in the U.S. and fight for TPS, and condemn the Trump administration’s racist, xenophobic witch-hunt against Haitian TPS holders and other immigrants.”

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**Good News! Injured Worker Update**

Thank you to all who took action to support “Jose” the injured worker whose story was featured on [NPR](#). The following is a statement released from the coalition supporting this family:

On May 22, José was released to his family for deferred action due to pressure from Metrowest Worker Center, MassCOSH, and other members of the Immigrant Worker Center Collaborative and legal allies. While this is a victory, the need for financial support has increased, in order to be able to assist the entire family with legal counsel. We are so grateful for the more than \$7,500 already raised. Our current

goal is to raise another \$12,500 for a total of \$20,000.

Last week, the New England Regional Council of Carpenters released a statement against this kind of retaliation, saying “The New England Regional Council of Carpenters represents all carpenters regardless of their status. If someone works they deserve to be paid. If they are injured on the job they are entitled to workers’ compensation coverage. End of story. A worker’s immigration status should not play any role in whether these right apply. Immigration officials going after any worker involved in a workplace dispute has a chilling effect on others exerting their rights under the law.”

We are organizing with a broad-based coalition of allies to speak up against this situation. We know that, beyond the workplace, the threat of ICE tends to drastically reduce the community’s willingness to report any kind of serious situation to authorities, from domestic violence to medical emergencies. This makes our communities far less safe, and provides protection for those who prey on the vulnerabilities of others. We urge you to join us in standing up for the safety of our communities.

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## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

[The Constitutional Convention](#) will be Wed **June 14, 1:00 PM** in the House Chamber. Supporters of the Fair Share Amendment will meet at **11:30 AM**, across from the House Chamber (3<sup>rd</sup> floor).

Upcoming in District Meetings: Hold your legislator accountable and Advocate for [Raising the Minimum Wage](#), [Paid Family And Medical Leave](#) and [The Fair Share Amendment](#)

**Representative: Michael Day**

When: Thur June 1, 6:00 PM

Where: Winchester Public Library, 80  
Washington St.

Sponsor: SEIU 888

**Representative: Aaron Vega**

When: Mon June 12, 5:30 PM

Where: Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St,  
Holyoke

Sponsor: SEIU 1199

**Representative: RoseLee Vincent**

When: Mon June 12, 1:00 PM

Where: State House

Sponsor: SEIU 32BJ

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## CLIMATE ACTION

### Attend a gathering of the MA Clean Energy Tour!

These are similar to Commonwealth Conversations - The Senate Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change is hosting hearings throughout the Commonwealth to get input from you on pressing issues in clean energy and climate. How do you think the legislature should keep our state healthy, sustainable and strong?

Dates & Location: Learn more, [HERE](#)

**June 12:** Springfield, 6:00 PM @ Western New England University  
School of Law, J Pellegrini Moot Courtroom, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

**June 19:** Pittsfield, 6:00 PM @ Berkshire Community College

**June 20:** North Shore, 6:00 PM @ Essex Agricultural and Technical  
High School

**June 26:** Boston, 6:00 PM @ TBD

Click on this [LINK](#) if you'd like to send the Senate Committee an email or tweet about your ideas.

**New: Synapse Energy Economic Inc**  
[An Analysis of the Massachusetts RPS](#)

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### Divestment Effort Continues

From Winona LaDuke and [Update from Honor the Earth](#)

Last week we launched an expanded campaign to defund oil pipelines. Please join us and [take action today](#).

It is clear that corporations and governments are not going to lead the necessary transition off fossil fuels and onto the green path. The responsibility falls to us. That is why we resist the pipelines and extractive projects that threaten our land and water, and that is why we are developing renewable infrastructure for our reservations. To create a livable future.

One way you can help drive this transition is by pressuring your banks and financial institutions. The #DefundDAPL movement born at Standing Rock has seen incredible success, with over \$5.4 billion withdrawn from DAPL-funding banks so far, and momentum continuing to build. [Three European banks have sold their shares](#) of loans to the pipeline company, and [US Bank just took an important step](#) towards exiting the pipeline finance world altogether. Time to push even harder.

Last week, we traveled along the Line 3 corridor to [Enbridge's shareholder meeting in Calgary](#), stopping along the way to build alliances with our relatives working to oppose the pipeline across the Great Plains. Together, we made it clear to Enbridge that we will not allow them to build a new Line 3. But we also stand in solidarity with those fighting the tar sands at the source, and the 3 other pipelines proposed out of Alberta. No new fossil fuel infrastructure anywhere.

We are excited to announce that we are part of a [coalition of grassroots Indigenous groups](#) that has joined forces with the 121 First Nations and Tribes united by the [Treaty Alliance Against Tar Sands Expansion](#) to launch a new, integrated [divestment campaign](#) against the banks funding Dakota Access AND all 4 tar sands crude oil pipelines currently proposed out of Canada. We must stand together.

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## Resources

[Eversource Rate Hike: Who's Really Cashing in on your electric bill Hike?](#)

By Eric Rasmussen and Erin Smith, 5/17/17 25 Investigates

“Eversource is writing big checks to its top executives

Last year, the electric giant paid \$34.5 million to just seven people – including two who are now retired.”

[Three Reason Natural Gas Is Heading a Lot Higher](#)

By Martin Tiller, 5/11/17 Oil Price.com

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## END MASS INCARCERATION

Resources to help you prepare for the upcoming Joint Committee on the Judiciary Hearings

[State Prison Spending Soars Despite Falling Population](#)

Milton Valencia, Boston Globe 5/15/17

[Aim Prison Budgets at Rehabilitation](#)

Boston Globe Editorial, 5/15/17

Good News! MA Senate votes to eliminate parole fees!

[Hear Sen. William Brownsberger's Statement](#)

[Getting Tough on Spending, An Examination of Correctional Expenditure in MA](#)

By Ben Foreman and Michael Widmer, MassINC

[The Geography of Incarceration](#)

By Ben Forman, Mass Inc

**Solitary Confinement documentary:** PBS Frontline has crafted a powerful 2-hour documentary,

["Last Days of Solitary"](#) available online for free.

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## Update from the Certified Working Groups

To contact us or to join the **Economic Equity in Politics** Certified Working Group, please go to:

<http://lists.uua.org/mailman/listinfo/EEP-CWG>

The next bi-monthly conference call of the UU Mass Action Certified Working Group **(CWG): Economic Equity in Politics** will be held on **Monday, June 12, 2017**, starting at **7 p.m.** Please feel free to join us. For a copy of the Draft Agenda (including call-in info) please click [HERE](#)

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### **Black Lives Matter**

The next quarterly meeting of the UU Mass Action Certified Working Group **(CWG): Black Lives Matter** will be held on **Sunday, June 11, 2017, 2-4 p.m.** at First Unitarian Society Newton. Please feel free to join us. For a copy of the Draft Agenda (including a link to directions) please click [HERE](#)

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### **Animal Rights**

Animals used by most meat and egg corporations are abused in horrific ways. MA voters took a stand last fall by overwhelmingly passing a ballot measure that will simply require that pigs, calves and chickens be given enough space to stand up, turn around and extend their limbs. But now agribusiness interests are pushing a deceptive bill that would create a board stacked with industry insiders authorized to determine MA's farm animal welfare regulations. The goal is to confuse the public, and to undermine existing and future protections. Please call your state legislators and ask them to reject H.441. More info and a form to take action are at [www.HumaneSociety.org/MAboard](http://www.HumaneSociety.org/MAboard).



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## **EVENTS, EDUCATION AND FORUMS**

**Looking for ways to live you values?**

*Note: Events Below are sponsored or co-sponsored by UU Mass Action, or are being offered by our UU partners*

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### **Sustainable Public Transportation in Metrowest?**

**When: Thurs June 1, 7:00 - 9:30 PM**

**Where: First Baptist Church, 22 Mechanic St, Marlborough**

Already we see electric charging stations and hybrid municipal vehicles. Now Marlborough is proposing a test of a small, pod transport system: very fuel efficient and more. We invite all to learn and to share ideas about advocacy and local actions at this public meeting of 350MA Metrowest.

Light refreshments available. [FLYER](#)

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## **Community Conversation**

**with Betty Burkes, Meck Groot, Eleanor Hancock, and Ulric Johnson**

**When: Fri June 2, 7:00 - 9:30 PM**

**Where: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 138 Tremont St. Boston (Park St. Station) Fragrance Free**

Community engagement on the insights and issues of white racial awareness work, liberation frameworks with communities of color and the possibilities for building multi-racial beloved community. In a context in which all of us are "racially" conditioned, what are the spaces, frameworks and practices for liberation? What is the value of spaces for white people to educate and support each other around internalized racial superiority and white supremacy? How does this work connect to support multi-racial organizing for racial justice? How are POC communities sustaining the work of liberation in these times? What is the wisdom from those organizing for justice who have come before us? What changes do we need to build 'beloved community'?

*Betty Burkes is Board Chair of the Cambridge Insight Meditation Center; Meck Groot Eleanor Hancock is Director of White Awake (<https://whiteawake.org>) ; Ulric Johnson is Director of Transformation, Awareness, Growth and Vision (TAGVs)*

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## **Boston's Future Buildings: How Do We Get to Net Zero? An Expert Panel Discussion**

Sponsored by the *Boston Clean Energy Coalition* and the *Jamaica Plain Forum*

**When: Thur June 15, 7:30 PM**

**Where: First Church in Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain**

### **Speakers include:**

- Matt O'Malley—Boston City Council Chair, Environment & Sustainability Committee (panel moderator)
- John Cleveland—Executive Director, Boston Green Ribbon Commission
- Henrietta Davis—former Mayor of Cambridge
- Joan Fitzgerald—Professor of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University
- Stephanie Horowitz—Managing Director, ZeroEnergy Design
- Cammy Peterson—Director of Clean Energy, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)

**The most effective work to create a clean energy future needs to happen in our cities and towns.** We can be more nimble, targeted, and successful than the federal government and move our country forward by taking steps locally to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Boston has a tremendous opportunity to show how our state and our nation can accelerate this transition by maximizing energy efficiency and local, renewable sources of energy. The initial *Imagine Boston 2030* report describes a major construction boom but does not call for the state-of-the-art efficiency requirements essential to keeping this development from locking us into new fracked- gas infrastructure to power new buildings and decades of dependence on fossil fuels.

**For more info and co-sponsors, see [FLYER](#)**

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**Black Lives Matter Boston presents:**

**The Power of Now Level II Workshop: Growing from Allyship to Solidarity and Turning Privilege to Power**

(You do not need to have attended Level I in order to participate in Level II)

**When: Sat June 17, 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM(Registration and Breakfast 9 am)**

**Where: First Parish in Brookline, 382 Walnut Street, Brookline MA**

(Brookline Hills T stop, and Number 60 bus to Cypress and Walnut streets. Street Parking available)



**Presenter: Karlene Griffiths Sekou** [TICKETS](#) [FLYER](#)

The current political moment in the United States presents some not so new challenges in immanent ways. There are real opportunities for resistance, growth, cultivating authentic and connecting relationships, and building collective power within a strong mass social movement.

This Level II Workshop will:

- A. Use personal stories, film, case study, and/or role play to build and strengthen participant conversations on race, healing justice, active resistance, white supremacy.
- B. Discuss the Radical Black Freedom Struggle and BLM's role in it
- C. Offer a framework for choosing to be an ally, accomplice or freedom fighter. Discuss what we mean by privilege, appropriation, White supremacy, White backlash racism, discrimination, cultural bias, etc.
- D. Discuss what you need to build effective partnership with the BLM movement. How do you go from allyship to solidarity and move from privilege to power.

Workshop fees will support BLM Boston. For sliding scale fees contact the organizer at [almasdossa@gmail.com](mailto:almasdossa@gmail.com)

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## **Black Lives Matter Cambridge Symposium**

**When: Sat June 24, 9:00 AM - 7:45 PM**

**Where: Lesley University, Washburn Hall, 10 Philips Place, Cambridge**

BLM Cambridge is hosting a day-long symposium focused on achieving racial justice and social equity in the Metro-North, and beyond. Keynote speakers include BLM Co-Founder Patrisse Khan-Cullors, and Executive director of the Marsha P. Johnson Institute, Elle Hearn. Also featuring Future (Janaya Khan) and DiDi Delgado. Join us as we envision and work towards creating a lasting and equitable future!

Note: We encourage QT/POC and those with financial constraints to contact the organizers at [blmcambridge@gmail.com](mailto:blmcambridge@gmail.com) for sliding scale accommodations.

Register [HERE](#) [Facebook Page](#)

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## 4th Annual Pocumtuck Homelands Festival

When: Sat Aug 5, 10AM - 7:00 PM

Where: Unity Park, along Barton's Cove, Connecticut River (GPS: 56 First St, Turner Falls)

Free Event

Come enjoy this festival at beautiful Unity Park with nesting Eagles or waterfowl flying in the background of the Music Tent, over the River. Gather with 30 partaking artisans and crafts people, exhibits of crafts, canoes, jewelry, flutes, musicians, drum groups, elders, storytellers, a children 's games tent, walking history tours, —visiting tepees and wiki-ups—and food. Take advantage of opportunities to purchase stunning art —basketry, jewelry and many crafts, and help make the Festival a success for our dedicated vendors!!

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### The Rowe Center Presents:

**Robin Wall Kimmerer, the author of the absolutely stunning book” Braiding Sweetgrass.”**

Robin Wall Kimmerer is a remarkable writer. Poetry flows through her veins, but primarily she is a Botanist—both a Western Scientist and a practitioner of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (TEK), (Potawanami)



This event is scheduled for November 3-5 but it is expected to sell out fast - Register today! [Register](#)

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## RESOURCES

Have you discovered this great new UUA / UUSC Resource?

[Love Resists](#)

LOVE *RESISTS*

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### Attention Worship Committees -

Are you planning your worship calendar for next year? UU Mass Action would love to join you in leading a worship service! Please feel free to contact us. This is a great way to support the work of UU Mass Action and collaborate on our shared work! Thank you!

Laura Wagner, Executive Director (Justice Building Theme) [lwagner@uumassaction.org](mailto:lwagner@uumassaction.org)

Evan Seitz, Climate Justice Organizer (Climate Justice Theme) [eseitz@uumassaction.org](mailto:eseitz@uumassaction.org)