

October 2017

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11/20/11

Dear Friend of IINYS:

Naively I thought that once Election 2016 was history my e-mailbox would lighten up and I would have fewer appeals for time, treasure and talent. Who knew? Democracy is a 365 (or 366) day enterprise. Health care disputes, deficit-busting tax proposals, and, of course, kneeling football players command our attention.

While these national issues are riveting, we New Yorkers must not take our eyes off the prize of progressive legislation in the Empire State. Indeed, reactionary actions from Washington, D. C. remind us that so much of our work is at the state level.

The failed “repeal and replacement” of Obamacare suggests that our focus on **single-payer health care** in New York State is crucial.

President Trump’s unfortunate ban on transgender people in the military calls our attention to the unfinished business of gender non-discrimination (**GENDA**) here.

The continuing attempt of conservatives to restrict access to abortion prompts us to redouble our efforts to pass the **Reproductive Health Act** in NYS.

Our “tough on crime” Attorney General suggests the need to redouble our efforts to reduce punitive solitary confinement in New York State prisons – the **HALT Act**.

Mr. Trump’s withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord makes more important our advocacy of the New York State **Climate and Community Protection Act**.

Our president’s cozying up with evangelical preachers encourages our efforts to maintain separation of church and state by **opposing educational tax credits**.

I could go on, but you get the idea. While many of us join the **resistance** to such policies at the federal level, we also resist by **monitoring proposed legislation and promoting positive policy at the state level**. Interfaith Impact understands the importance of what we do in providing a **liberal religious vehicle** for individuals and congregations to advocate for the **Beloved Community**.

Visit our emerging website; read and share our new “**Notes for Change**” monthly newsletter, **educate** yourself and your congregation, **take action** on our legislative alerts, and, of course, **contribute** to our ongoing work. As poet Marge Piercy writes: “**There is no one but us.**” Complete the form below or go to our website’s “contribute” button to make your investment in progressive policy for New York State.

In the faith,
The Rev. Dr. Richard S. Gilbert, President

DONATE NOW

Interfaith Impact of NYS depends on the donation of friends and members to maintain a year-round presence in Albany.

Please, consider a generous donation now.

Go to <http://www.interfaithimpactnys.org/Donations.html> or include your check with the form below.



Yes, I'll help make our shared progressive religious values heard in the New York State Legislature and Executive Chamber. I want to donate to (please check one):

Interfaith Impact of NYS, Inc. to support direct issue advocacy (501C4, not tax deductible)

Interfaith Impact of NYS Foundation, Inc. issue education and civic participation (501C3 tax deductible)

Name and title: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

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Suggested donation: \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500, other

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ (check made out to Interfaith Impact of NYS or IINYS Foundation).

Please mail to our treasurer at Interfaith Impact of NYS, 101 Coniston Dr, Rochester, NY 14610

Interfaith Impact of NYS. P.O. Box 7163 Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224

518-463-5652; www.interfaithimpactnys.org; www.iinys.nationbuilder.com

Facebook: like our Interfaith Impact of NYS group (to pose your concern) and page for official posts

ISSUES CHECK LIST: WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES FOR 2018?

(Please rate from 1-5, 1 being highest priority and 5 lowest and send to

Rsgilbert@uuma.org or Richard S. Gilbert, 70 Harper Street, Rochester, NY 14607)

Women's Equality Agenda _____ Gas storage and transport _____ GENDA (transgender rights) _____
Minimum Wage _____ Criminal Justice Reform _____ Moral Budget _____ Public School Funding _____
Charter schools (pro or con) _____ Campaign Finance Reform _____ Redistricting _____ Environmental Issues
(Clean Energy) _____ Single Payer Health Care _____ Dream Act for immigrant children in school _____
Farm Labor _____ Medical Marijuana _____ Separation of Church & State _____ Death with Dignity _____
Other (please specify) _____

COMMENTS _____

NAME _____ ADDRESS (Street) _____

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