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## SPEAK OUT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE • PORTLAND 2015 Saturday, June 27, 2015

**AIW Vote 1—Saturday, June 27, General Session IV, 8:15 a.m. Pacific time.** After reading the 100-word summaries of 6 possible AIWs in this Alert (on page 2) and listening to 2-minute presentations by proposers, delegates will vote whether to admit up to three proposed Actions of Immediate Witness to the Final Agenda.

**AIW Mini-Assemblies, Saturday June 27, 1:15 – 2:30 p.m., D133-134, D137-138, D139-140.** The full text of the 3 selected proposed AIWs will be available at the mini-assemblies and on the GA ap. These Mini-Assemblies are your **ONLY** opportunity to suggest amendments to the text of the proposed Actions of Immediate Witness admitted to the GA Agenda during the morning Plenary. Debate on each AIW as amended occurs during the Sunday morning Plenary. Off site delegates will have a chat room where they can also propose amendments.

Only delegates can propose amendments. If you wish to propose an amendment to any of the 3 proposed AIWs, use the form on page 3. Share it with others on the offsite delegates chat. If the consensus of the delegates is to support the proposed amendment, underline group process. If the group does not discuss it or if the group does not reach consensus on it, either underline individual or explain the various positions after the table. Submit the final proposed amendment (after discussion) to [socialwitness@uua.org](mailto:socialwitness@uua.org) by 2:30 p.m. TODAY.

Following the mini-assemblies, the CSW will meet to consider all proposed amendments. The Sunday CSW Alert will contain a revised draft text, with all unincorporated amendments listed and prioritized.

### **PLAN AHEAD for SUNDAY**

**AIW Vote 2—Sunday, June 28, General Session VI.** Delegates vote whether to adopt each of the 3 proposed AIWs.

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*Questions? Visit the CSW at Booth 206 in the Exhibit Hall  
UUA Commission on Social Witness – [www.uua.org/statements](http://www.uua.org/statements)*

### **Proposed AIW A: Support the Black Lives Matter Movement**

This AIW encourages member congregations and all Unitarian Universalists to work towards making police and prison abolition a tangible presence in America. This AIW recognizes that the fight for civil rights and equality is as real today as it was decades ago, and urges member congregations to take initiative and work towards a definite end to the harsh racial prejudices many people are exposed to, including with local and national organizations fighting for racial justice.

### **Proposed AIW B: Act for a Livable Climate**

Climate is our defining ethical, justice, and survival issue. Climate Change magnifies all the Social Justice issues we support. Looming climate crises of food, safe drinking water, heat-related deaths, migrations, disease, and insecurity threaten mass suffering for the vulnerable and future generations. *Climate change is the gravest threat facing our world today* (Morales, Schultz). An international agreement is critical for reduced climate risk and better future outcomes. UU principles compel us to Mobilize, Lead, and Press government for Action that will conclude with a strong, compassionate global climate agreement this December. UUs are at a courage choice point.

### **Proposed AIW C: Supporting a Framework for Nuclear Deal with Iran**

UUs have long sought a peaceful world, including non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, as called for in our Sixth Principle. International negotiators have developed a framework that can ensure Iran can only have a peaceful nuclear program through rigorous inspections and verification, but these negotiations need our support as our US Administration efforts are under attack from Conservative Senate war hawks.

### **Proposed AIW D: Calling for an End to LGBTQIA+ Conversion Therapy**

Fueled by all seven UU principles, UUs have long been at the forefront of the struggle for LGBTQIA+ equality-most recently including the movement to end conversion therapy, a set of dangerous and discredited practices that claim to change sexual orientation or gender identity. UU ministers and lay leaders have been instrumental in the efforts to end conversion therapy, especially for the youth most frequently targeted by this industry, but a strong statement from the UUA General Assembly would carry unprecedented weight and send a message to all young people of faith that they were born perfect.

### **Proposed AIW E: End Immigrant Child and Family Detention Now**

Thousands of children and their mothers, escaping violence in their Central American home countries, are being permanently psychologically damaged and imprisoned in detention centers in the US, even though many have qualified for release or asylum. These practices are inconsistent with our Unitarian Universalist values. There are many other ways the government can ensure that immigrants show up at their hearings, including community-based approaches that connect them with needed services and US relatives (when applicable). We call on President Obama, Congress, and US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency to close the family detention centers and immediately release those detained.

### **Proposed AIW F: Solidarity with Lummi Nation**

Lummi Nation is resisting proposals to establish the largest coal terminal in North America on their sacred lands. Massive quantities of coal would be sent from the interior US via open railroad cars to be stored onsite for export to Asia. Immense carbon footprints and socio-environmental hazards characterize every step of this process. We're especially concerned that the lands/waters involved are Lummi burial grounds that go back 3,500 years, violating treaty rights. This AIW, and our 2015 Social Witness, asks that congregations stand with Lummi Nation by putting pressure on decision makers to deny permits for the Gateway Pacific Terminal.

**AMENDMENT FORM**  
*UUA General Assembly*

Name of Agenda Item

Delegate's Name

Delegate's e-mail

Delegate's Congregation Name

City

State

**Please identify the lines affected and print the amendment.**

| Line # | Text |
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Only 1 Proposed Amendment per form.  
Submit to [socialwitness@uua.org](mailto:socialwitness@uua.org) by 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time, SATURDAY