

## **WANT YOUR CONTRACT FUNDED? CALL YOUR LEGISLATOR ON OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>!**

Our only chance of funding the negotiated collective bargaining agreements that were vetoed by the Governor in July is for the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate to call their respective bodies back into formal session to override the Governor's veto. The only pressure the Speaker and the President are likely to respond to is pressure from fellow legislators. Consequently, we must pressure legislators to urge the leadership to bring the legislature back into session. For strategic reasons, we will be focusing for the time being on the House of Representatives.

We are asking members of the House to sign onto a letter to the Speaker formally requesting that he bring the House back into session this year to override the vetoes. On October 16<sup>th</sup>, we are asking our members to call their state Representative and ask her/him to sign onto this letter. We need thousands of public sector workers to make these calls on the 16<sup>th</sup> to be effective.

A script of what you might say is below. Feel free to put it in your own words, but **be sure that the sentence in bold is a part of your message**. Report the reaction you get to your steward and/or Local President. If your Representative says they've already signed on, thank them for their support. The call should not take you more than a few minutes. You will almost certainly speak with an aide. That's fine – the important thing is for us to log as many calls as possible.

### **SAMPLE SCRIPT**

"Hi. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I live at \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. I work at \_\_\_\_\_, and I am one of the workers affected by the Governor's veto of the higher education collective bargaining agreements. **I am calling to urge you to sign onto the letter being sent to Speaker Finneran asking him to bring the House back into a formal session this year to override the Governor's vetoes.** These contracts were negotiated in good faith. Despite the tough fiscal times, contracts with the private sector are being honored by state government. I don't understand why workers are treated differently. The Massachusetts Legislature has never failed to fund a signed collective bargaining agreement. I urge you to sign onto the letter to the Speaker. Thank you."

[If the Representative has questions about how to sign on or about the letter, have them call MTA Division of Governmental Services at 617-878-8119.]