



# Advocacy Update

Sent June 23, 2010

## **Urgent Action on “Jobs” and Child Nutrition Legislation Needed Now**

Call on Congress to extend much needed unemployment insurance benefits and fund affordable housing by supporting the [American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act](#). Reach your representative and senators through the Capitol Switchboard at 202.224.312. To send an e-mail message, go to the link above, scroll to the bottom of the page, and enter your zip code.

Take action on [child nutrition](#) – time for legislation during this session is short. Urge your members of Congress to support increased funding for important nutrition programs in the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 2010. Reach your members of Congress through the Capitol Switchboard at 202.224.3121, or to send an e-mail, go to the link in this paragraph, scroll to the bottom of the page, and enter your zip code.

## **Fight U.S. Poverty as Part of a Nationwide Interfaith Coalition**

WRJ is a co-sponsor of this year’s Fighting Poverty with Faith (FPWF) mobilization, a broad, interfaith movement to reduce poverty by half between 2010 and 2020. FPWF is calling-on individuals, houses of worship, and community organizations to hold programs, educate, and advocate on poverty issues during October 2010.

We are co-sponsoring an informational mobilization conference call on Thursday, July 15th at 3:30 pm EST. The call is planned to help you, and other leaders, learn about the mobilization, the resources, and tools we are creating, and how your participation in this movement will benefit your community. We encourage you to join us for this important call.

## **Important News from Canada and Israel**

News from Canada: On June 17, 2010, the Canadian Senate adopted "An Act to amend the Criminal Code (minimum sentence for offences involving trafficking of persons under the age of eighteen years)." Joy Smith, MP (Kildonan-St. Paul, Manitoba), its sponsor, wrote to supporters, “I am so pleased that our country now has a law that assures significant penalties for those who traffic children.” For more information, please read the [press release](#).

WRJ congratulates Marni Besser and Alexis Rothschild (Temple Sholom Sisterhood, Vancouver, BC, Canada), The Temple Committee Against Human Trafficking (Temple Emanu-EL-Beth Sholom, Montreal, Quebec, Canada), Sara Charney, WRJ VP, (Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood, Toronto, ON, Canada), and the other sisterhood advocates who helped this bill become law.

News from Jerusalem: The 36th World Zionist Congress was held in Jerusalem from June 15 to June 17, 2010. Rabbi Danny Allen, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA), has written a series of dispatches on the congress. His concluding dispatch covers the accomplishments of the Reform/Progressive Movement, the benefits of the congress, and some of its deliberations.