



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR ADULT EDUCATION

FY 2009 ABE BUDGET REQUEST To Expand ABE System Capacity and Strengthen ABE Services

FY2009 ABE BUDGET REQUEST

\$40 million for ABE line item #7035-0002 under the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to increase ABE capacity, intensity and access to services, and strengthen the ABE infrastructure to serve more adults.

The ABE line item is currently funded at \$30.1 million for FY2008. ABE was funded at \$30.2 million in FY2000, virtually the same funding level as now.

A Five Year Plan to Expand Capacity and Strengthen ABE Services:

- 5 Year Budget Goal: \$35 million total in additional ABE funding for line item #7035-0002 under the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education;
- MCAE proposes that the additional funding be used to:
 - increase the capacity of the ABE service delivery system by funding an estimated 2400 new "slots" in the ABE service delivery system per year;
 - increase the intensity of service by increasing the number of classroom instructional hours per week;
 - strengthen the ABE infrastructure to make it possible for the ABE service delivery system to expand each year to serve more adults (e.g., classroom space, retain staff, train additional teachers); and
 - increase access to ABE services by providing funding to unserved and/or underserved areas of the state.