

ALERT SUMMARY:**1. PURVIEW: State (not federal)****2. LEVEL OF MOBILIZATION: please share this information with others and encourage everyone to thank their legislators**

FY2010 BUDGET SENT TO GOVERNOR FOR SIGNATURE:

- On June 19, the state legislature passed the FY2010 state budget and sent it to Governor Patrick for his review and signature.

- The Governor has 10 days to review and sign the budget or it automatically becomes law. He also has the authority to veto a line item, reduce the amount in a line item and/or strike budget language. The Governor cannot add funds to a line item. The legislature can override a gubernatorial veto of a line item by a 2/3 vote.

- **The FY2010 budget includes \$28,085,096 for the ABE line item #7035-0002 (the amount from the Senate budget).**

- **Other line items important to the ABE community were funded as follows:**

* **Workforce Training Fund** (an employer-funded training fund, which will also provide funding for the dedicated workplace education fund proposed by the ABE/ESOL Sub-Committee of the State Workforce Investment Board) was funded at \$10 million (MCAE and its allies had advocated for \$21 million);

* **Citizenship for New Americans Program** (a program that provides ESOL classes to lowincome

immigrants who wish to become naturalized U.S. citizens) was funded at \$250,000 (MCAE and its allies had advocated for \$500,000).

* **Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund** (a public-private funded job training program which provides job training for workers to fill vacant jobs) was not funded and \$5 million was transferred from the WCTF to the general fund.

IMPORTANT -- PLEASE THANK YOUR LEGISLATORS!

- One of the hallmarks of MCAE's budget campaign is that we always remember to thank the state representatives and senators for their strong support of ABE.

- Please call, email or write your legislators to thank them for their terrific support of the ABE line item, especially during this exceptionally difficult budget process.

- Even if you're not a constituent of any members of the Joint Ways and Means Conference Committee, please take the time to make a thank you call to their offices. Their contact information is at the end of this alert.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS!

- The calls, emails and letters that you made and helped to generate truly make a difference. ABE did as well as it did because you made your voice heard. You increased ABE's visibility and emphasized how important ABE is to the state's economic future. Legislators heard your message.

- This year's budget outcome for ABE is evidence of your impact. Thank you!

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

Senator Steven Panagiotakos: Steven.Panagiotakos@state.ma.us; 617-722-1630

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Rep. Charles Murphy: Rep.CharlesMurphy@hwm.State.MA.US; 617-722-2990

Rep. Barbara L'Italien: Rep.BarbaraL'Italien@Hou.State.MA.US; 617-722-2380

Rep. Viriato de Macedo: Rep.VinnydeMacedo@Hou.State.MA.US; 617-722-2100

QUESTIONS:

- If you have questions about this alert, please contact Steve Reuys (steve.reuys@umb.edu) or Roberta Soolman (litvolma@aol.com).