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ALL REPLIES TO THE LIST ARE DISCARDED**

**Please send all responses and questions to either of the MCAE Public Policy Co-Chairs:
Roberta Soolman litvolma@aol.com at (888) 466-1313, or Steve Reuys at
steve.reuys@umb.edu; (617) 287-4071.**

ALERT #12-05: HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS RESTORES FEDERAL ABE FUNDING

- On June 9th, the House Sub-Committee on Appropriations for Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS), which includes adult education, voted to restore full funding to adult education.

- The specific language was as follows: "Restores funding for Adult Education. The LHHS Subcommittee bill restores funding for Adult Education grants to \$570 million, which the Administration proposed to cut by 65%. In 2005, more than 2.8 million Americans will acquire basic literacy skills -- a prerequisite for success in the workplace -- through Adult Education Services."

- Although this is a great victory, it is not the last step in the budget process. Current information is that the full Appropriations Committee will take up the Sub-Committee bill with its budget recommendations sometime in the next two weeks.

- Thank you to all of you who made calls, sent letters and emails and encouraged others to do the same. The wonderful victory of June 9th is a direct result of your efforts and deep commitment to adult education. It never would have happened without you.

PLEASE THANK YOUR CONGRESSMAN IF HE SIGNED THE "DEAR COLLEAGUE" LETTER THAT CIRCULATED IN THE HOUSE IN APRIL THAT URGED FULL FUNDING OF ADULT EDUCATION:

- As always, it is important for us to thank those congressman in Massachusetts who supported us by signing the "Dear Colleague" letter in April that helped build vital momentum for this recent victory with the Sub-Committee on Appropriations.

- According to the most up-to-date information received on 6/10/05 from those who coordinated the letter writing campaign nationally, the following MA congressmen signed the "Dear Colleague" letter:

Michael Capuano
Stephen Lynch
James P. McGovern
Martin Meehan
Richard Neal
John Tierney

***Please note that because Congr. Olver is on the full Appropriations Committee, he doesn't sign letters to the Appropriations Committee. Programs in the west will be receiving a different thank you message to be conveyed to Congr. Olver. The message will come directly from your regional coordinator, George Kohout.

THE THANK YOU MESSAGE:

- If your congressman is on the above list, please write or call and thank him for his very important support.

- Provide your name and address.

- Say you are a constituent and registered voter if you are (please register if you are not).

- Tell him how important it is that the Appropriations Sub-committee recommended restoring full funding for adult education.
- Let him know that you hope you can continue to count on his support for adult education as the budget process progresses.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- Remember that because of security concerns, letters will be slow.
- To send an email, go to www.house.gov/writerep/

Representative Michael Capuano
1530 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2108
Tel: 202.225.5111 Fax: 202.225.9322

Representative Stephen Lynch
319 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2109
Tel: 202.225.8273 Fax: 202.225.3984

Representative James P. McGovern
430 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2103
Tel: 202.225.6101 Fax: 202.225.5759

Representative Marty Meehan
2229 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2106
Tel: 202.225.3411 Fax: 202.226.0771

Representative Richard E. Neal
2266 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2102
Tel: 202.225.5601 Fax: 202.225.8112

Representative John F. Tierney
120 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2106
Tel: 202.225.8020 Fax: 202.225.5915

- If you are not sure who your Congressman is, go to www.house.gov, type in your Zip+4 digit zip code (e.g., 01234-5555) and click Go. If you do not know your Zip+4 digit zip code, go to www.usps.com and click on Find a Zip Code.

THANK YOU AND PLEASE REPORT BACK:

- Thank you for going that extra step that MCAE is known for and sending a thank you to your congressman.
- Please report back to your regional coordinators so we can keep track of the thank you's:

Boston: Mary Mello (mello@bostonabcd.org)
Central: Cathy Gannon (cgannon@qcc.mass.edu)
Northeast: Don Edwards (edwardsdon@mindspring.com)
Southeast: Suzanne Martin (suzannemartin@brocktonpublicschools.com)
West: George Kohout (gkohout@hcc.mass.edu)