

Alert #15-06: Immediate Action - Urge Senators to Sign ABE Amendment #399

THIS LIST IS FOR MCAE PUBLIC POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLY

NOTE: ALL REPLIES TO THE LIST ARE DISCARDED

Please send all responses and questions to litvolma@aol.com or steve.reuys@umb.edu.
Thanks!

ALERT SUMMARY:

- 1. PURVIEW: State (not federal)**
- 2. LEVEL OF MOBILIZATION: Asking all program staff and as many students as possible to make calls.**
- 3. WHO IS BEING CONTACTED: All senators.**
- 4. GOAL: To get at least 20 more senators to sign on so we have a majority of 21 out of 40 senators signed on by May 24 when the budget debate begins in the Senate.**
- 5. TIMEFRAME: Immediate action.**

PROPOSED HOUSE BUDGET LEVEL FUNDS ABE FOR FY 2007

- On May 17, the Senate Ways and Means Committee released its proposed budget for FY2007 (7/1/06 - 6/30/07).

- The budget contained \$29.3 million for ABE line item #7035-0002, which is the same level of funding that we now have in FY2006.

- MCAE had proposed an \$8 million increase for a total of \$37.3 million.

SENATOR JOYCE FILED AMENDMENT TO INCREASE LINE ITEM TO \$32.3 MILLION

- At MCAE's request, Senator Brian Joyce (serving Avon, Braintree, Canton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Milton, Randolph, Sharon, Stoughton, West Bridgewater) filed Senate Amendment #399 to increase the ABE line item by \$3 million to \$32.3 million total.

CALL YOUR SENATOR IMMEDIATELY TO URGE HIM/HER TO SIGN ON:

- Please contact your senator and urge him/her to sign on to amendment #399. More than 900 amendments have been filed, which will make it very difficult for an amendment to reach the floor for a vote unless there is a lot of strong support for it.

- In order for our amendment to have a chance of being successful, we must demonstrate that there is significant support for it among the senators by having as many senators as possible sign on in support. Our goal is to have 21 (a majority) senators sign on.

- When you call, you can speak to either the legislator or his/her aide, or leave a message.

SCRIPT TO USE:

- My name is _____ and I'm a registered voter in Representative _____'s district. (If you are not registered and eligible, please consider registering since your opinion carries more weight as a registered voter.)

- I'm calling to urge you to sign on to amendment #399 filed by Senator Brian Joyce to increase the ABE line item #7035-0002 by \$3 million to \$32.3 million.

- Adult basic education is important to me because _____.

- Do you know if Senator _____ plans to sign on? If you don't know yet, when could I call back to see what he/she decided?

- Thank you very much for your time.

REPORT BACK:

- If you receive a definite commitment from your representative that he/she will sign on to the amendment, please report to your Program Point Person who will then report to the MCAE Regional Coordinator.

- You may not be able to get a definite commitment, but please try.

- If you don't know who your Program Point Person is or you don't have one, please report directly to your Regional Coordinator.

- It is important that we have this information in order to see how close we are to reaching our goal of 21 senators.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS:

- Boston: Mary Mello (mello@bostonabcd.org)

- Central: Cathy Gannon (cgannon@qcc.mass.edu)

- Northeast: Don Edwards (edwardsdon@verizon.net)

- Southeast: Suzanne Martin (suzannemartin@brocktonpublicschools.com)
- West: George Kohout (gekohout@hcc.mass.edu)

QUESTIONS:

If you are not sure who your state senator is, either call the State House switchboard (617.722.2000) or go to <http://www.mcae.net/pages/legislative/legmain.html> and follow the instructions.

- If you have any questions, please contact Roberta Soolman (litvolma@aol.com or 617.367.1313) or Steve Reuys (steve.reuys@umb.edu or 617.287.4071).

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR MAKING THESE IMPORTANT CALLS!

MCAEAnnounce mailing list:

<http://lists.literacytent.org/mailman/listinfo/mcaeannounce>

LiteracyTent: web hosting, news, community and goodies for literacy

<http://literacytent.org>