

Alert #17: Immediate Action: Calls to Leadership Re Conference Committee

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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: Realizing that programs may already be closed for the summer, asking all program staff and as many students as possible to make calls**
- 3. WHO IS BEING CONTACTED: Legislative leadership: House Speaker Sal DiMasi, Senate President Robert Travaglini, House Ways and Means Chair Robert DeLeo and Senate Ways and Means Chair Therese Murray.**
- 4. GOAL: Each person to make 4 telephone calls to legislative leadership**
- 5. TIMEFRAME: Immediate action**

FY 2007 BUDGET NOW IN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

- The House budget passed with an increase of \$3 million for a total of \$32.3 million for ABE line item #7035-0002. The increase was the result of a successful amendment proposed by Reps. Bosley (North Adams), Torrissi (North Andover), Kozcera (New Bedford) and Rodrigues (Westport) to include an funding increase and new language for ABE from the Economic Stimulus Bill.

- The Senate budget did not pass an increase.

- The Joint Ways and Means Conference Committee is now debating the budget and must reconcile the two different figures for the ABE line item.

- We are focusing calls on the legislative leadership to urge them to influence the Joint Ways and Means Conference Committee.

MAKE 4 CALLS TO THE LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP TO URGE THE \$3 MILLION INCREASE IN THE ABE LINE ITEM USING THE FOLLOWING SCRIPT:

- My name is ____ and I'm a registered voter in ____ (city/town).

- I'm calling to urge you to urge the Joint Conference Committee to agree on the House figure of \$32.3 million for line item #7035-0002 for adult basic education.

- Adult basic education is a vital workforce and economic development issue:

* MA is the only state in the nation that has lost population.

* Immigrants are an important part of the MA workforce. Without them, the workforce would have gotten even smaller as we lost population.

* Employers must be able to find educated and qualified workers if they are to remain in MA and be competitive.

* Workforce and economic development depend on educated workers.

* MA needs more adult basic education and ESOL services.

- Thank you very much for your time.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

House Speaker Sal DiMasi: 617.722.2500

House Ways and Means Chair Robert DeLeo: 617.722.2990

Senate President Robert Travaglini: 617.722.1500

Senate Ways and Means Chair Therese Murray: 617.722.1481

REPORT BACK:

- Please tell your regional coordinator when you have made your calls.

- 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 (gkohout@hcc.mass.edu)

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

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