

Alert #04-08: Immediate Calls to Reps Re FY09 Budget Wish List for ABE February 4, 2008

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: Staff, adult learners, volunteers**
3. **WHO IS BEING CONTACTED: State representatives (not senators)**
4. **TIMEFRAME: Immediate; calls must be made before February 11**

IMMEDIATE CALLS NEEDED TO STATE REPRESENTATIVES RE FY09 ABE BUDGET:

- The deadline for all state representatives to submit their FY2009 budget priorities (their "wish list") to Representative DeLeo, Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, is **Monday, February 11**. They are preparing their lists **now**.

- Please call your state representative **immediately to request \$40 million for ABE line item #7035-0002 under the MA Department of Education for Fiscal Year 2009**. The current amount of the ABE line item is \$30.1 million.

- Talk to an aide if you cannot talk to the Representative directly, and ask for the aide's name for future reference.

- It will take less than 5 minutes to make a call. If everyone made a call to their Representative, we could generate thousands of calls and have a real impact.

SCRIPT TO USE:

- Give your name.

- Say you live in the Representative's district. If you are registered to vote, say you are a registered voter in the Representative's district.

- Ask the Representative to include \$40 million for the adult basic education line item #7035-0002 under the MA Department of Education in his/her list of budget priorities due February 11 to House Ways and Means.

- Say why adult basic education is important to you:

* If you are a student, say how adult basic education is helping you to achieve your goals.

* If you are a staff member or volunteer, say how adult basic education is helping your student(s) and why you believe adult basic education is an important investment in the state's future.

- Ask if the Representative will include this request on his/her list of FY2009 budget priorities.
- Thank your Representative or the aide.

NEW WAY TO REPORT BACK:

- **Please note we are trying a new report back system to make it easier to keep track of our support and report results of your calls back to all of you!**

- **Please report back directly to your Program Point Person who will then report back to Luc Schuster at MCAE (lschuster@mcae.net; 617.778.7971).** If you don't know who your Program Point Person is or you don't have one, please report back directly to Luc Schuster.

- Do **not** report back to the Regional Coordinators.

Report the following information:

- * your program's name
- * your state representative's name
- * rate the response from the representative using this scale:

1 = made a definite commitment to include ABE in his/her budget request to House Ways and Means as you asked

2 = favorable toward request, but no definite commitment

3 = neutral

4 = opposed to the request; will definitely not support it

QUESTIONS:

- If you are not sure who your state representative is, either call the State House switchboard (617.722.2000) or go to www.wheredoivotema.com.

- For questions about this alert, 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 TAKING THE TIME TO MAKE THIS IMPORTANT CALL AND FOR YOUR PATIENCE AS WE TRY OUT A NEW REPORT BACK SYSTEM!

MCAEAnnounce mailing list:

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

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

<http://literacytent.org>