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

ALERT SUMMARY:

1. **PURVIEW: Federal (not state)**

2. **MOBILIZATION: Everyone**

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE ON FAST TRACK IN CONGRESS:

- MCAE is supporting the National Coalition for Literacy's effort to include \$500 million for basic skills programs for unemployed workers in the Economic Stimulus package that Congress is trying to pass by mid-February.
- The \$500 million was not included in the House version of the Economic Stimulus legislation.

PLEASE MAKE 3 CALLS IMMEDIATELY:

- **Senator Kennedy**
- **Senator Kerry**
- **Your congressional representative**

- Telephone numbers are at the end of this alert.

- When you call, ask to speak to the aide working on either the Economic Stimulus Package, education issues or budget issues.

SCRIPT TO USE:

- Provide your name and if you are a registered voter.

- For Senators Kennedy and Kerry, urge them to include \$500 million in the Economic Stimulus Package for unemployed workers in the Senate version of the legislation.

- For your congressional representative, urge him/her to push for the House to include \$500 million for unemployed workers in the Economic Stimulus Package when the differences in the House and Senate versions are worked out in the Conference Committee.

- If you have the opportunity, tell the aide why these funds are important:

- * People without jobs need ABE services even more now so they can be ready for jobs that emerge as a result of the Economic Stimulus package and other initiatives.

- * Unemployed adults who need ABE services are eager and ready to learn, and have the time now especially while they're not working.

- * Helping adults to improve their basic skills rapidly will help them, individual businesses and the nation's economy all increase productivity, and is an important investment in any economic stimulus plan.

- Thank the aide for his/her time.

REPORT BACK:

- Please report back directly to your Program Point Person. If you don't now who your Program Point Person is or you don't have one, please contact Jennifer McAllister at MCAE (jmcallister@mcae.net).

- Report the following information to your Program Point Person:

* Whom you called and his/her response.

* Rate the response from each call using this scale:

1 = made a definite commitment to support the request (not just ABE in general)

2 = favorable toward your request, but no definite commitment

3 = neutral toward your request

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

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

- You must call the Washington offices of your senators and congressional representative.

- Senator Kennedy: (202) 224-4543 (very important to call; Chairman of the Health, Education and Labor and Pensions Committee, and member of the Joint Economic Committee)

- Senator Kerry: (202) 224-2742 (very important to call; member of the Senate Finance Committee)

- Rep. Capuano: (202) 225-5111

- Rep. Delahunt: (202) 225-3111

- Rep. Frank: (202) 225-5931

- Rep. Lynch: (202) 225-8273

- Rep. McGovern: (202) 225-6101

- Rep. Markey: (202) 225-2836

- Rep. Neal: (202) 225-5601 (very important to call; on House Ways and Means Committee)

- Rep. Olver: (202) 225-5335 (very important to call; on House Appropriations Committee)

- Rep. Tierney: (202) 225-8020

- Rep. Tsongas: (202) 225-3411

QUESTIONS:

- If you don't know who your congressional representative is, go to <http://www.house.gov/zip/ZIP2Rep.html>.

- For questions, contact Roberta Soolman (litvolma@aol.com or 617-367-1313) or Steve Reuys (steve.reuys@umb.edu or 617-287-4071).

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THESE VERY IMPORTANT CALLS!