

**ALERT SUMMARY:**

1. **PURVIEW:** Federal (not state)
2. **LEVEL OF MOBILIZATION:** Everyone, **especially students**
3. **WHO IS BEING CONTACTED:** All members of Congress (representatives and senators)
4. **TIMEFRAME:** **Immediate, now through April 21, 2009**

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**ABE NEEDS YOUR HELP TO PUSH FOR FEDERAL ABE INCREASE FOR FY2010:**

- President Obama will send his fiscal year 2010 budget proposal to Congress on April 21, 2009.
- We must now let the members of Congress know that adult education must be a high priority for increased federal support. We will be most successful if we involve students in this action.

**METHODS FOR CONTACTING YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATORS:**

- Each individual should contact the Washington office (not the local district office) of the congressional representative who represents the district where you live.
- Everyone should also contact Senators Kennedy and Kerry.
- Contact can be made by letters (faxed or emailed), calls or email messages.
- Do not mail letters. We need immediate volume and some offices delay mail due to previous anthrax security threats.

**DEADLINE:**

- **To have an impact on the budget debate, we need to make these contacts by April 21.**

**POINTS TO MAKE IF YOU ARE A STUDENT:**

- Give your name.
- Say you are a constituent and live in the congressional district. If you are registered to vote, say you are a registered voter in the district.
- Give the reason why you enrolled in adult basic education and why it's important to you.
- Give your plans for after you graduate from ABE (i.e., your "next steps").
- Ask for an increase in ABE funding to **\$750 million for FY2010**.
- Thank the congressional representative/senator for his/her support.

**POINTS TO MAKE IF YOU ARE STAFF OR A VOLUNTEER:**

- Give your name.
- Say you are a constituent and live in the congressional district. If you are registered to vote, say you are a registered voter in the district.
- Ask for an increase in ABE funding to **\$750 million for FY2010**.
- Say why ABE is important to you, especially now:
  - \* 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 are not working.
  - \* Helping adults to improve their basic skills rapidly will help them, individual businesses and the nation's economy all increase productivity. ABE is an important investment in any economic stimulus plan.
- Thank the congressional representative/senator for his/her support.

**IF YOU ARE A TEACHER:**

- Try to incorporate the letter writing or telephone calls into a class lesson and/or group activity to provide support for students and integrate skills into their daily experience.
- Try to encourage students to write individual letters, which have much more impact than a form letter.

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND FAXES:**

- You must call or fax the Washington offices of your congressional representative and senators.
- Rep. Capuano: Tel: (202) 225-5111; Fax: (202) 225-9322
- Rep. Delahunt: (202) 225-3111; Fax: (202) 225-5658
- Rep. Frank: (202) 225-5931; Fax: (202) 225-0182
- Rep. Lynch: (202) 225-8273; Fax: (202) 225-3984
- Rep. McGovern: (202) 225-6101; Fax: (202) 225-5759
- Rep. Markey: (202) 225-2836; prefers no faxes
- Rep. Neal: (202) 225-5601; Fax: (202) 225-8112
- Rep. Olver: (202) 225-5335 (very important to call; on House Appropriations Ctte) Fax: 202-226-1224
- Rep. Tierney: (202) 225-8020; Fax: (202) 225-5915
- Rep. Tsongas: (202) 225-3411; Fax: (202) 226-0771
- Senator Edward Kennedy: (202) 224-4543; Fax: (202) 224-2417
- Senator John Kerry: (202) 224-2742; Fax (202) 224-8525

**EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

- Use the URLs listed below or go to <https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome/shtml> to email your congressional representative.

Capuano: <http://www.house.gov/capuano/contact/email.shtml>

Delahunt: [William.Delahunt@mail.house.gov](mailto:William.Delahunt@mail.house.gov)

Markey: [http://markey.house.gov/index.php?option=com\\_email\\_form&Itemid=124](http://markey.house.gov/index.php?option=com_email_form&Itemid=124)

Neal: [http://www.house.gov/neal/write\\_neal.html](http://www.house.gov/neal/write_neal.html)

Olver: <http://www.house.gov/olver/contactme.html>

Tierney: [https://forms.house.gov/tierney/webform/issue\\_subscribe.htm](https://forms.house.gov/tierney/webform/issue_subscribe.htm)

Tsongas: <http://tsongas.house.gov/?sectionid=11&sectiontree=3,11>

Kennedy: <http://kennedy.senate.gov/senator/contact.cfm>

Kerry: <http://kerry.senate.gov/contact/email.cfm>

**QUESTIONS:**

- If you don't know who your congressional representative is, go to <http://www.house.gov/zip/ZIP2Rep.html>.
- For questions on this alert, contact Roberta Soolman ([litvolma@aol.com](mailto:litvolma@aol.com) or 617-367-1313) or Steve Reuys ([steve.reuys@umb.edu](mailto:steve.reuys@umb.edu) or 617-287-4071).

**REPORT BACK:**

- Please report back directly to your Program Point Person regarding how many faxes, calls or emails were sent to each congressional representative and senator. If you don't know who your Program Point

Person is or you don't have one, please report back to Jennifer McAllister at MCAE ([jmcallister@mcae.net](mailto:jmcallister@mcae.net)).

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING THIS VERY IMPORTANT ACTION AND BEING A PART OF A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE ABE FUNDS!**