



# ALERT

THE VOICE OF  
ADULT EDUCATION  
IN MASSACHUSETTS

**Alert #2 - FY2013**

**February 11, 2013**

## **ALERT SUMMARY:**

- 1. PURVIEW: State (not federal)**
- 2. LEVEL OF MOBILIZATION: Staff, adult learners, volunteers**
- 3. WHO IS BEING CONTACTED: State representatives and state senators**
- 4. TIME LINE: Immediate, especially to state representatives who are drafting their FY2014 list of budget priorities now**

## **NEED IMMEDIATE CALLS TO STATE REPS AND SENATORS TO PUT ABE ON FY 2014 BUDGET WISH LISTS**

- On January 25, Governor Patrick released the administration's proposed budget for FY 2014 (7/1/13 - 6/30/14).

- The budget is non-binding and gives the legislature and the public an indication of the Governor's spending priorities.

- **The Governor's budget funds the ABE line item #7035-0002 at \$35,178,721. This is a \$5 million increase over the FY2013 ABE budget appropriation. The governor proposes earmarking the \$5 million increase to be used exclusively for services to adult English language learners (i.e., ESOL).**

- **MCAE wholeheartedly supports the Governor's request for a \$5 million increase in the state's ABE funding. However, MCAE has, over the years, consistently indicated that it does not support the inclusion of earmarks for specific types of services within the line item.**

- **MCAE also supports efforts by the Governor and by the Campaign for Our Communities Coalition to raise new revenue in a fair way to invest in our state's many pressing needs, including adult basic education.**

- **All advocates are communicating their budget requests to the House and Senate now, and we must also do so or risk not being heard.**

## **NEXT MCAE PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**March 8, 2013**

10 a.m. to 12 noon  
UMass/Boston  
100 Morrissey Blvd  
Healey Library  
Media Conference Room  
Lower Level

via videoconference:  
Picknelly Education Center,  
Holyoke, MA  
contact [kdunkelberg@hcc.edu](mailto:kdunkelberg@hcc.edu)  
for exact room location

## IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED

- Please make 2 calls: one to your state representative and one to your state senator. It will take less than 5 minutes to make a call. If everyone makes their calls, we could generate thousands of calls and have a real impact.

- Speak with an aide if you cannot speak with the representative or senator directly, and ask for the aide's name for future reference.

## SCRIPT TO USE

1. Give your name.
2. Say you live in the representative/senator's district. If you are registered to vote, say you are a registered voter in the district.
3. **Urge the representative/senator to put ABE on their FY 2014 budget wish list to the House/Senate leadership at a funding level of \$35.17 million, which is a \$5 million increase in funding over FY2013.**
4. **If you have time, indicate your support for the proposals by Governor Patrick and Campaign for Our Communities to raise adequate new revenues, while making our tax system simpler and fairer for all Massachusetts residents.**
5. If you are a student, say how adult basic education is helping you to achieve your goals.
6. Thank the representative/senator or aide for his/her time, especially if you are told that the representative/senator has or will put ABE on his/her FY14 budget wish list.
7. Report back so we know who supports this request and where we must do follow-up!

## REPORT BACK

1. Please report back to your Program Point Person. If you do not 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))
2. Report the following important information to your program point person for each individual call you made:
  - Whom you called and his/her response.
  - Rate the response from each call separately using this scale:
    - 0 = unknown; left a message;**
    - 1 = made a definitive commitment to support the specific request (not just ABE in general);**
    - 2 = favorable toward request, but no definite commitment;**
    - 3 = neutral toward your request;**

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

## **MORE INFORMATION**

- If you do not know who your state representative or senator is, either call the State House switchboard (617-722-2000) or go to [www.wheredoivotema.com](http://www.wheredoivotema.com)

- For questions on this alert contact Roberta Soolman ([litvolma@aol.com](mailto:litvolma@aol.com)) or 617-367-1313), Steve Reuys ([steve.reuys@umb.edu](mailto:steve.reuys@umb.edu) or 617-287-4071), or Jennifer McAllister ([jmcallister@mcae.net](mailto:jmcallister@mcae.net) or 508-208-0130).

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO MAKE THESE IMPORTANT CALLS!**

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to [litvolma@aol.com](mailto:litvolma@aol.com) by [litvolma@aol.com](mailto:litvolma@aol.com) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education | MCAE | 44 Farnsworth Street | Boston | MA | 02210