DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



December 29, 2006

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-99-06

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY FOOD STAMP EMPLOYMENT AND
TRAINING COORDINATORS

REASON FO	R THIS	TRANSMIT	TAI
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- [] State Law Change
- [] Federal Law or Regulation Change
- [] Court Order
- [] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- [X] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: STATE MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE AND FOOD STAMP EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING (FSET) PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

REFERENCE: ASSEMBLY BILL 1835, CHAPTER 230, STATUTES OF 2006

This notice is to inform counties of the forthcoming increase in the state minimum wage and to explain the impact of this increase on Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSET) participation requirements. Assembly Bill 1835, Chapter 230, Statutes of 2006 was enacted on September 12, 2006, and added section 1182.12 to the California Labor Code to specify that effective January 1, 2007, the state hourly minimum wage shall increase from \$6.75 to \$7.50. The state hourly minimum wage will further be increased to \$8.00 effective January 1, 2008.

Food stamp regulations at Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) section 63-407.85 define minimum and maximum participation requirements for persons assigned to FSET. FSET work components include: workfare, work experience, and on-the-job training (OJT). In accordance with MPP section 63-407.855, the monthly hours of participation for a Non-assistance Food Stamp household member assigned to an unpaid FSET work component are determined by dividing the household's monthly food stamp allotment by the higher of the state or federal minimum wage. Since the state minimum wage is higher than the current federal minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour, the state minimum wage would be used when calculating hours of participation in an unpaid FSET work component.

The upcoming increase in the state minimum wage will reduce the hours of participation required for food stamp applicants and recipients, including Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) assigned to unpaid FSET work components. Additionally, if more than one member of the same household participates in a workfare assignment, each individual shall participate for a portion of the required number of workfare hours which, when combined, is equal to the maximum number of hours which may be required of that household.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Nevins, Program Analyst, at (916) 654-1408.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

RICHTON YEE, Chief Food Stamp Branch