

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



October 30, 2007

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 07-45

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL FOOD STAMP PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIA PROJECT MANAGERS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: CALWORKS AND FOOD STAMP PROGRAM SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIREMENT FOR SENATE BILL (SB) 1569 – VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING OR OTHER SERIOUS CRIMES

REFERENCE: Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 13283 and 18945 added by SB 1569 (Chapter 672, Statutes of 2006), MPP 40-105.2 and MPP 63-404

The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform counties of the Social Security Number (SSN) requirement exception for those individuals applying for CalWORKs and/or Food Stamp benefits who claim the status of a victim of human trafficking or other serious crimes pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18945.

The federal requirement that individuals provide SSNs in order to receive federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding and Food Stamp benefits was established for the purpose of preserving program integrity through the use of the Income Eligibility Verification System (IEVS). Applicants and recipients of federally-funded TANF and Food Stamp benefits are required to disclose their SSNs as a condition of eligibility. However, under SB 1569, individuals claiming the status of a victim of human trafficking or other serious crimes, as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18945, are state-funded cases and not governed by this federal requirement. Therefore, SB 1569 victims of trafficking or other serious crimes, as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18945, do not have to provide or apply for a SSN as a condition of eligibility for state-funded CalWORKs or Food Stamp benefits.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need additional information, contact your CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau county consultant at 916-654-1322 or Jaime Aguirre, Food Stamp county consultant, at 916-657-3418.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

CHARR LEE METSKER
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

c: CWDA
CSAC