DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814

November 16, 1999



ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-87-99

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS

REASON FOR THIS RANSMITTAL
[] State Law Change
[] Federal Law or Regulation
Change
[] Court Order
[] Clarification Requested by
One or More Counties
[X] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: EARLY ISSUANCE OF JANUARY 2000 FOOD STAMP BENEFITS

The California Department of Social Services has been working with counties to insure their Year 2000 readiness. This difficult task has resulted in the development of Business Continuation Contingency Plans (BCCPs) for the provision of uninterrupted services for each county. These BCCPs provide options for county operations in the event of Y2K internal or external technology failure. We are quite confident that your benefit delivery systems will work effectively.

We recognize counties have taken appropriate steps to ensure continuation of benefits; however, we also understand unforseen circumstances may arise. We want counties to be aware that there is another option at their disposal to allow them additional time to resolve any potential Y2K problems. We are encouraging counties to issue January 2000 benefits during the last week of December 1999. State and Federal regulations do not preclude early issuance as long as households receive benefits on or about the same date each month.

If a county customarily uses staggered issuance and FS benefits for January 2000 are issued prior to December 31, 1999, no more than 40 days can elapse before the February benefits are issued (see MPP 7CFR 274.2 (e)). If a county issues January benefits in December 1999, recipients should be advised of the appropriate February issuance date as well as the reason for the early issuance.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Ms. Cindy MacDonald, at (916) 654-1898.

Sincerely,

Original document signed by Charr Lee Metsker on 11/16/99 CHARR LEE METSKER, Chief Employment and Eligibility Branch