

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



April 8, 2002

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) No. 02-29

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS
COUNTY INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM COORDINATORS
FOSTER FAMILY AGENCIES
GROUP HOME PROVIDERS
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PROGRAM PROVIDERS
CALIFORNIA STATE FOSTER PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

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: FOSTER/PROBATION YOUTH SAVINGS EXEMPTION

This ACL concerns Assembly Bill (AB) 1261 (Chapter 686, Statutes of 2001) which amends Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 11155.5. Prior to AB 1261 foster/probation youth age 16 years and older participating in the Independent Living Program (ILP) were permitted to retain cash savings for emancipation purposes up to \$5,000 as a resource exemption. The amendment removes the requirement that the resource exemption apply only to ILP participants.

The bill increases the cash amount to \$10,000 in addition to allowable personal property, pursuant to goals set out in the youth's Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP). The funds must be the youth's own money. It must be deposited by or on behalf of the youth, into a savings account at a bank or savings and loan institution insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. Withdrawal of funds from the savings account is contingent upon the written approval of the youth's social worker/probation officer and must be directly related to the goal of emancipation.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Sonya St. Mary at (916) 445-7001, sonya.st.mary@dss.ca.gov or Chris Forté at (916) 327-6926, chris.forte@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

**Original Document
Signed by**

SYLVIA PIZZINI
Deputy Director