



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

February 14, 2018

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) 18-16

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIA REPRESENTATIVES
ALL QUALITY CONTROL COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: CALFRESH EXCLUSION OF FUNERAL AGREEMENT
FROM RESOURCES

REFERENCES: [TITLE 7 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATION \(CFR\) 273.8\(e\)\(2\)](#)

This letter provides County Welfare Departments (CWDs) with guidance regarding a new federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program regulation at [7 CFR Section 273.8\(e\)\(2\)](#) which allows CWDs to exclude the cash value of one funeral agreement per household member when determining whether a household meets the resource limit. On January 6, 2017 the United States Department of Food and Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service issued final rule implementing provisions of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. The final rule included this new regulation which was effective May 8, 2017.

Impact of New Regulation

Program impact is limited as most CalFresh households are not required to meet the resource limit due to California's implementation of Broad Based Categorical Eligibility, referred to as *Modified Categorical Eligibility* in California. For the limited number of households who must meet the resource limit, for example elderly and disabled households with gross income above 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, the cash value of one funeral agreement per household member shall be excluded when determining whether a household meets the resource limit. This change is effective upon release of this letter.

CalFresh Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP)

Language under MPP Section 63-501 relating to resources will be updated as soon as administratively feasible to reflect these changes.

If you have any questions regarding this ACL, please contact the CalFresh Policy Bureau at (916) 651-8047.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division