DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



September 18, 2001

| State Law Change | State Law or Regulation | Change | Court Order | Clarification Requested by One or More Counties

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: NEED FOR VIGILANCE REGARDING NONDISCRIMINATION

In the aftermath of recent events in New York and Washington, the California Department of Social Services is available to assist you in any way we can to help you address backlash against individuals who are or are perceived to be of Middle Eastern descent. We must ensure that everyone, regardless of ethnicity or religious belief, continues to be treated in a culturally sensitive way. This is especially important in the delivery of benefits and services. On an individual level and together, we can help to return our community to normalcy.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Jeanne Rodriguez, Deputy Director, Office of Human Rights, at (916) 654-2474, or Bruce Wagstaff, Deputy Director, Welfare to Work Division, at (916) 657-3546.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

RITA SAENZ Director