

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



July 3, 1990

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-51-90

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DEFINITION OF DISABLED FOR FOOD STAMPS

REFERENCE: All County Letter No. 89-89, dated October 26, 1989


This letter transmits further information to the counties concerning the definition of "disabled" for Food Stamp purposes, which was expanded under the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-435). Part of the expanded definition includes a household member who receives interim assistance pending receipt of SSI or disability-based general assistance. This definition was implemented effective November 1, 1989.

In accordance with M.S. 63-102 e.(1)(D) and (F), a member of the household who receives interim assistance benefits pending receipt of SSI or disability-based general assistance, is considered "disabled" if the eligibility to receive those benefits is based upon disability or blindness criteria which are at least as stringent as those used under Title XVI of the Social Security Act. However, to our knowledge, no county operates a disability-based assistance program based upon eligibility conditions that even closely approach the stringency of the disability criteria under Title XVI.

Federal Law concerning Food Stamps (7 U.S.C. Section 2012 (r)(2)) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to make the determination of whether the disability or blindness criteria used by a disability-based local assistance program are at least as stringent as those used under Title XVI of the Social Security Act. Therefore, if the county believes it may have such a program, the disability criteria must be submitted to this Department, specifically to the AFDC and Food Stamp Policy Implementation Bureau, to be forwarded for review and determination by the Secretary of Agriculture. The counties must receive the determination from the Secretary of Agriculture for their program before an applicant/recipient can be considered disabled under M.S. 63-102 e.(1)(D) and (F). This requirement was not addressed in the above-referenced ACL.

If you have any questions, please contact Michele Hansen of the AFDC and Food Stamp Policy Implementation Bureau at (916) 324-2010.

Sincerely,

  
ROBERT A. HOREL  
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA