STATE OF CALIFORNIA-HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street, Sacramento CA 95814	
July 27, 1992	REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL
ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 1-36-92	[] State Law Change [] Federal Law Change [] Court Order or Settlement Agreement
TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS	[ ] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties [X] Initiated by SDSS

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Attached for your information is a copy of California's 1991 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) Food Stamp Corrective Action Plan which was sent to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) as required by Federal regulations.

State original error rate (SOER) findings of quality control (QC) payment errors for the 1991 FFY (October 1990 through September 1991) are presented in this Plan. The emphasis is on the last six months review period of April through September 1991. The SOER for the first six months (October 1990 through March 1991) of the 1991 FFY, including issuances to ineligibles, overissuances and underissuances, was 10.1 percent and for the second six months (April 1991 through September 1991) was 9.7 percent.

QC case reviews done by the State are rereviewed by Federal QC reviewers to produce an official Final Federal Error Rate (FFER). The Food Stamp program FFER for the 1991 FFY was 10.36 percent. While this was a significant reduction from the 11.64 percent FFER for the 1990 FFY, we again exceeded the Federal tolerance level and will be subject to a fiscal sanction. The 1991 FFY Federal tolerance level, consisting of the national average error rate plus a one percent forgiveness factor, was 10.31 percent. The five one hundredths percent excess payment error level represented by our 10.36 percent error rate makes California subject to a \$653,305 Federal sanction.

In addition to an error rate data analysis, Part I of the Plan provides an overview of State level error reduction activities. Part II discusses County level accuracy improvement efforts. It includes error rate data for the 34 largest counties and an overview of County level error reduction efforts. This data shows that 24 of these 34 counties had error rates below the most recent Federal tolerance level of 10.31 percent. We appreciate the hard work and attention you have directed toward accuracy improvement in the Food Stamp program and congratulate you for the significant improvement in the 1991 FFY statewide Food Stamp error rate. We will make every effort to assist you in bringing Food Stamp error rates below sanctionable levels and maintaining them at a low level.

If you have any comments or questions about this Plan, please contact Ron Thoreson, Chief, Operations Improvement Bureau at (916) 445-2154.

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MICHAEL C. GENEST Deputy Director Welfare Programs Division

Attachment

cc: CWDA