STATE OF CALIFORNIA-HEALTH AND WELFARE SENCY

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

September 4, 1992

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 92-78

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

 REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

 [X] State Law Change

 [] Federal Law or Regulation

 Change

 [] Court Order

 [] Clarification Requested by

 One or More Counties

 [] Initiated by SDSS

SUBJECT: INFORMING REQUIREMENTS FOR A ROLLBACK IN AFDC, RCA AND ECA GRANT LEVELS.

The State Budget has been passed with a Cash Aid Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) rollback to reduce welfare costs. For purposes of this letter, Cash Aid means the AFDC, RCA and ECA programs.

You are to notify Cash Aid recipients of the MAP rollback using the forms described below and attached.

Cash Aid MAP Rollback

The Cash Aid MAP levels have been reduced by 4.5 percent effective October 1, 1992. Because of the short implementation timeframe, recipient overpayments will result unless you can give timely notice of the MAP change or adjust the October 15th warrant with timely notice.

As you know, there will be a corresponding decrease in maximum RISP and Permanent Homeless Assistance payments which are based on 80 percent of MAP. Also, when Cash Aid is reduced, Food Stamp benefits are usually increased.

Food Stamps

Adjustments to Food Stamp benefits made as a result of the reduction in Cash Aid levels shall be handled as a mass change as specified in M.S. 63-504.392. The general mass informing notice (Attachment I) contains the Food Stamp information necessary to inform recipients of the changes. An individual Notice of Increased Benefits (DFA 377.4) is not required.

General Mass Informing Notice

In order to mitigate the impact on the Cash Aid population and you, we have developed the attached general mass informing notice

(Attachment I) to give advance warning. It is highly recommended that you utilize this stuffer to alert Cash Aid recipients of the MAP rollback, to enable them to both plan ahead and to address their questions to the State. The notice has the State's special toll free number. Based on last year's rollback experience, the toll free number worked effectively. This should reduce your workload associated with inquiries about the rollback.

The stuffer can be sent with the warrants, CA 7s, Notices of Action (NOAs) or by separate mailing. The usefulness of the stuffer will be diminished if it does not precede the actual NOA which reduces Cash Aid. However, even if you are only able to send out the stuffer with the timely NOA to reduce the grant, you should do so.

AFDC Payment Standard Table

Attachment II is the AFDC Payment Standard Table containing the new payment levels.

AFDC NOAs

Attachment III contains three AFDC NOAs with implementing instructions for the MAP Rollback.

Translations

Attachment IV contains the translated versions of the mass informing notice and the NOAs in Spanish. Camera ready copies of the mass informing notice and the NOAs in Spanish, Vietnamese, Lao, Cambodian and Chinese will be forwarded under separate cover by the Language Services Bureau.

Other AFDC Budget Changes

Other changes in the Budget affecting AFDC are contingent on Federal waivers. Information on these and other Budget changes will be provided more fully in forthcoming All County Information Notices.

Contacts

If you have any AFDC Program questions, you may contact Dennis Ragasa at (916) 654-1063. If you have any AFDC NOA questions, you may contact John Honeycutt at (916) 654-1077. If you have any Refugee Program questions, you may contact Betts Smith at (916) 324-8415. If there are any Food Stamp Program questions, you may contact Suzanne McNamee at (916) 657-3815. If you have any questions on the translations, you may contact Armand Herra of the Language Services Bureau at (916) 654-1286.

Madel.C

MICHAEL C. GENEST Deputy Director Welfare Programs Division

Attachments