

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



December 7, 1995

ALL COUNTY LETTER 95-75

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEMATIC ALIEN VERIFICATION FOR ENTITLEMENTS (SAVE) REVISED SECONDARY VERIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR REFUGEE APPLICANTS OF AFDC, FOOD STAMP AND MEDI-CAL BENEFITS

REFERENCE: All-County Letter No. 88-131
All-County Welfare Directors Letter 88-59
All-County Welfare Directors Letter 88-68
All-County Welfare Directors Letter 92-48

This letter is to provide the County Welfare Departments (CWDs) with the necessary instructions to implement the conditions of a waiver granted by the federal government from secondary verification procedures, under the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program, for refugees applying for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Food Stamp (FS) and Medi-Cal benefits. The waiver allows the CWDs to delay secondary verification of a refugee's immigration status for 12 months or until the first redetermination/recertification.

SAVE was implemented under Section 121 of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 to verify the immigration status of all alien applicants for and recipients of AFDC, FS and Medi-Cal effective October 1, 1988.

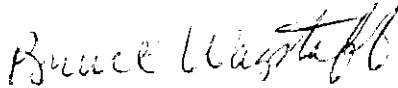
The specific conditions of the waiver are as follows:

1. CWDs will continue to undertake SAVE primary verification of all refugees' immigration status at the time of application for AFDC, FS, and Medi-Cal. Refugee applicants with questionable or possible fraudulent documentation will continue to be processed using both primary and secondary verification procedures.
2. The waiver will apply only to refugees applying for AFDC, FS and Medi-Cal benefits, where the primary verification response from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) indicates "institute

secondary verification", and for whom it is unlikely that the INS will have immigration status information on the SAVE system data base. Only refugees are impacted by the waiver and are identified by the INS Form I-94.

3. For those refugees where SAVE secondary verification was not undertaken at the time of application, the alien registration number, or "A" number, will be resubmitted for primary verification at the annual redetermination/recertification, or not more than 12 months after the date of application. A secondary verification will be initiated at this time, if necessary.

Counties are to begin complying with the provisions of the SAVE secondary verification procedures waiver for AFDC, FS and Medi-Cal cases immediately. The duration of the waiver is indefinite. If you have any questions or require more information, please contact Ms. Barbara Triplett of the CDSS Fraud Bureau at (916) 445-2561 or Ms. Marlene King of the California Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch at (916) 657-0134.



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