STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
714/744 P STREET
P.O. BOX 942732
SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320

(916) 657-2941

January 5, 1995

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons

Letter No.: 95-02

OTHER HEALTH COVERAGE--COUNTY BOUNTY PROGRAM

This is to advise you that the County Bounty program is expected to be terminated on June 30, 1995, which is the end of the contract period. The program will not be extended beyond this date unless the statewide number of Medi-Cal recipients identified as having health insurance reaches 5 percent of the total Medi-Cal caseload. The current identification rate is 3.7 percent. While there has been a slight increase since the program's inception, the limited growth does not justify continuation of incentive payments.

Department staff will continue to conduct training on health insurance identification throughout the spring. Many counties have increased reporting rates in the months following the training. So it is possible, given the counties scheduled for training early in 1995, that the reporting rates could reach 5 percent by June. This would, however, require all counties to increase their efforts to identify health insurance coverage.

Experience in California and other states has proven that much health insurance goes unreported. This pilot program was implemented to provide counties with a financial incentive to enhance the identification process. We are still eager to work with you to achieve that goal and to continue the County Bounty program. Please direct any questions or comments to Ms. Shar Schroepfer of the Health Insurance Section at (916) 323-9948.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch