STATE OF CALIFORNIA--HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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June 10, 1997

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

Letter No.: 97-25

BANK ACCOUNT NUMBERS

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties that information has been received regarding the reuse of bank account numbers. We have been advised that a financial institution reuses account numbers when the account has been closed over one year. Other financial institutions may have the same practices.

Counties are to continue to verify checking or savings account balances in accordance with Title 22, Section 50167 (a)(7)(I), by viewing either current account statements from the institutions holding the funds or signed correspondence from the institutions holding the funds.

The practice of assigning account numbers may impact information received through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or Franchise Tax Board (FTB) process. Per Title 22, Section 50167.5, the county shall not deny or terminate benefits of an applicant or beneficiary based on information from the IRS or FTB until the county has:

- Verified the value of the property,
- Established whether the property is the property of the individual and available to the individual, and
- Determined the period of time the individual actually had the property.

The county shall verify the accounts by sending the individual a letter advising them of the information received from the Income Eligibility Verification System report, the potential impact on eligibility, the requirement to respond within ten days, and the consequences of failure to respond.

If you have any questions, please call Kathy Harwell at (916) 657-0146 or Sharyl Shanen-Raya at (916) 657-2942.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
TOM WELCH for

FRANK S. MARTUCCI, CHIEF
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch