STATE OF CALIFORNIA--HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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October 13, 1997

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

Letter No.:97-39

PROPERTY LIMIT EXCLUSIONS FOR SPECIALIZED ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED BY MEDI-CAL APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS BECAUSE OF THEIR DISABILITIES OR THEIR CHILDREN'S DISABILITIES

Ref.: Americans with Disabilities Act, Sections 50465 and Section 50467, All County Welfare Director Letter (ACWDL) No. 96-55

The purpose of this ACWDL is to remind counties of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirement to exclude the value of all specialized adaptive equipment required for use by Medi-Cal applicants and recipients with disabilities or their children who have disabilities.

The ADA was signed into law in 1990. The Act requires that persons with disabilities have an equal opportunity to receive the same benefits as persons without disabilities. All specialized adaptive equipment, including wheelchairs and other devices required for use by a Medi-Cal applicant or recipient shall be considered exempt property and shall not be included in the property reserve. The specialized adaptive equipment shall be considered as either household items if they are used to equip the home, or personal effects. Household items are considered exempt property in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 50465 and personal items are considered exempt property in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 50467.

When determining the value of a motor vehicle, (see ACWDL No. 96-55), that is specially equipped for a person with a disability, the special equipment is not considered to increase the value of the vehicle.

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

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch