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

December 23, 1997

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

Letter No.: 97-66

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME/STATE SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM (SSI/SSP) RECIPIENTS DISCONTINUED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1998 (Lynch v. Rank)--503 LEADS

Ref.: Pickle Handbook, 503 Leads, Section 3, pages 3-1 through 3-3

The above referenced section of the Pickle Handbook describes procedures counties are to follow upon receipt of the 503 Leads File Report. Pickle Coordinators will receive the initial listing the third week in January 1998; a sample of the 503 Leads File Report is enclosed. It will contain the names and addresses of Medi-Cal beneficiaries who were discontinued from the SSI/SSP effective January 1998 due to the Title II Social Security cost-of-living increase.

In previous years, the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) persons on the 503 Leads list were forwarded to the IHSS department; now, they are to be redetermined by the Pickle Coordinators and others handling Pickle cases. Those ineligible for Pickle, but wishing IHSS must be forwarded to IHSS to be processed in Aid Codes 18, 28, and 68. These IHSS individuals must be deleted from the 503 Leads File Report and added to the Tickler file using an EW 60 and a Status indicator. This is a Lynch v. Rank lawsuit requirement. Also, presumptive Pickle eligibility has been established on the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) for all 503 Leads individuals for January through April 1998.

Counties will receive additional monthly updated reports during the months of February through November 1998. The updated 503 Leads File Reports will indicate those individuals, if any, for whom counties still must conduct a Pickle determination. Additional names will not be added to the updated reports; however, the names of those individuals who: (1) have been reinstated on SSI/SSP, (2) had their Pickle status updated, or (3) have been determined Medi-Cal eligible for Pickle, or are eligible for long-term care will be deleted as updated reports are generated. Once all of the names have been deleted, your county will no longer receive the 503 Leads File Report.

At the same time the report is provided to you, Medi-Cal Pickle 503 Leads Notices (Type 51) along with Pickle forms (SAWS 1, MC 210 or the SAWS 2, MC 13, MC 219, MC 239 and the DHS 7044) are sent by the Department of Health Services (DHS) to affected beneficiaries. A sample copy of the Type 51 notice is enclosed; it now includes Food Stamp information.

Pursuant to the Lynch v. Rank court order, counties must ensure that the eligibility determination on these 503 Leads individuals is completed prior to April 30, 1998. If a delay has prevented counties from contacting or completing a determination on the remaining individuals by the end of April month of eligibility (MOE), Medi-Cal eligibility must continue via appropriate **county MEDS input** until a determination has been completed. Please refer to 503 Leads, Section 3, pages 3-1 through 3-3 of your Pickle Handbook for instructions on extending Medi-Cal eligibility for the May MOE and ongoing until all redeterminations are completed.

NOTE: If Medi-Cal eligibility is established as a Pickle aid type, county welfare departments (CWDs) should submit updates to MEDS to establish ongoing eligibility. Since these records have a future term date, if an update is submitted prior to May MOE, the EW20 transaction must be submitted as an Inter Program Transfer (ESAC = 2 or 7). The Pickle status code will automatically be updated by these transactions.

However, if a beneficiary is determined to be currently ineligible for Medi-Cal benefits as a Pickle aid type, CWDs are required to submit an EW60 transaction (Modify Pickle Status Information) to MEDS to update the Pickle status to show that the beneficiary is potentially Pickle eligible (Tickler file). The Tickler file ensures that previously ineligible Pickle individuals are encouraged by letter to come in to the county welfare department and be redetermined for the Pickle program.

Please direct any Pickle policy questions to Ms. Sylvia Finberg of my staff at (916) 657-0080. MEDS questions should be directed to the MEDS Coordinator in your county, or for MEDS system problems call the MEDS "Hotline" at (916) 657-1010.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosures

State of California - Health and Welfare Agency
Department of Health Services
Medical Assistance

NOTICE TYPE 51
NOTICE PREPARATION DATE:
DECEMBER 13, 1994

MEDI-CAL NOTICE

DISCONTINUANCE OF SSI/SSP MEDI-CAL --
EXTENDED MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY
(503 Leads - Pickle)

TO: Medi-Cal Beneficiaries Discontinued
From SSI/SSP On January 1, 1995

RE: CONTINUED MEDI-CAL BENEFITS & FOOD STAMPS

You were recently told by the Social Security Administration (SSA) that your Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) benefits have stopped. That notice also instructed you to contact your county welfare department within 30 days of that notice if you wanted your Medi-Cal benefits to continue. You should ignore the information included in the notice that related to your Medi-Cal Benefits.

he reason your SSI/SSP checks were stopped is that you received an increase in your Social Security benefits. Although this increase makes you ineligible for the SSI/SSP check, you will continue to receive Medi-Cal benefits under the federal law called the Pickle Amendment until the county evaluates your eligibility. Those who are Pickle eligible will continue to receive Medi-Cal without a share of cost.

If you want Medi-Cal coverage, please complete the enclosed forms:

- The Application for Medical Assistance/Food Stamps
- Statement of Facts
- Statement of Citizenship, Alienage, & Immigration Status
- Important Information for Persons Requesting Medi-Cal
- Statement of Living Arrangements, In-Kind Support etc.

Within 30 days of the date of this notice, mail the forms to the office listed below. If you do not hear from the county by March 15, be sure to contact a worker at your local county welfare department.

You may also be eligible for food stamps. Food stamps are coupons that can be used to pay for food. Your local county welfare office will tell you more about food stamps and whether you are eligible to receive them -- and even help you apply.

If you are receiving SSI/SSP benefits, please ignore this notice.

If you need help in completing the forms or have questions about Medi-Cal, contact the county welfare department at the phone number listed below.

CONTACT:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY DATA SYSTEM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

.....COUNTY.....
SACRAMENTO

REPORT NO.	REPORT DATE	.....TITLE.....	DISTRICT	WORKER
MR-MED820-R003	12/15/87	503 LEADS FILE REPORT	999	A1

CASE-NAME	COUNTY-ID	MEDS-ID	BIRTHDATE	SEX	ELIG-STATUS
DOE	99-99-9999999-9-99	999-99-9999	11-08-955	F	001

DOE	JANE	A	PICKLE-TICKLER	SSI-LAST-RECEIVED	LAST-PICKLE-CHG
ANY PLACE			CO	12-87	12-11-87
ANY STREET					
ANY TOWN, CALIFORNIA		ZIP			

CASE-NAME	COUNTY-ID	MEDS-ID	BIRTHDATE	SEX	ELIG-STATUS
SMITH	99-99-9999999-9-99	999-99-9999	09-30-944	M	001

SMITH	JOHN	Z	PICKLE-TICKLER	SSI-LAST-RECEIVED	LAST-PICKLE-CHG
744 P STREET			CO	12-86	12-10-86
SACRAMENTO	CA	95814			

CASE-NAME	COUNTY-ID	MEDS-ID	BIRTHDATE	SEX	ELIG-STATUS
NEUMAN	99-99-9999999-9-99	999-99-9999	04-01-936	M	003

NEUMAN	ALFRED	E	PICKLE-TICKLER	SSI-LAST-RECEIVED	LAST-PICKLE-CHG
714 P STREET			CO	12-87	12-11-87
SACRAMENTO	CA	95814			

CASE-NAME	COUNTY-ID	MEDS-ID	BIRTHDATE	SEX	ELIG-STATUS
BOND	99-99-9999999-9-99	999-99-9999	04-19-927	M	596

BOND	JAMES		PICKLE-TICKLER	SSI-LAST-RECEIVED	LAST-PICKLE-CHG
744 P STREET			CO	12-87	12-11-87
SACRAMENTO	CA	95814			

SAMPLE