STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

Letter No.: 86-48

SUBJECT: BUY-IN CHANGE FOR MEDICALLY NEEDY ONLY (MNO) CASES

This is to notify you of an upcoming change to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS).

The coverage period for Medically Needy Only (MNO) individuals under the State Buy-In Agreement is the second month after the month in which the determination or approval is made that Medi-Cal eligibility exists. The current Buy-In system is programmed to buy-in for the second month after the month for which eligibility is reported.

In order to meet Federal requirements for Buy-In, based on the approval date, it will be necessary to have the counties report the approval date to MEDS on potential Buy-In MNO recipients for use in the Buy-In process. This approval date is required for each new period of MNO eligibility that is not contiguous with prior eligibility. The format of the approval date will be MMDDYY. The target date for all counties to begin reporting approval date for MEDS is April 1987.

We are requesting that each county notify us in writing or via SYSM no later than September 30, 1986, if this target date will allow enough lead time to make changes to your internal eligibility reporting procedures/systems.

The approval date should be reported on EW20 and EW30 transactions which establish eligibility on MEDS when: (1) the recipient is a potential Medicare eligible (aged, blind, or disabled, including chronic renal disease) reported in an MNO aid category and, (2) in the month prior to the effective date month the recipient is not Medi-Cal eligible in any other aid category.

Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch will work with county staff to coordinate instructions for county welfare departments on the creation of the new field and proper reporting to MEDS. The counties will be informed of the approval date data element for EW20 and EW30 transactions prior to installation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your State MEDS Liaison.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants
MEDS Liaisons

Expiration Date: June 30, 1987