STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

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

August 9, 1989

Letter No.: 89 - 65

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

SUBJECT: PUBLIC CHARGE

This letter is to inform you that the receipt of Medi-Cal benefits by amnesty aliens and special agricultural workers (SAWs) will not make such aliens a public charge. As you may know, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has adopted such policy. It is specifically stated in federal regulations (8 CFR Section 210.1(1)). Therefore, you may give applicants who declare they are amnesty aliens or SAWs the following message:

"Receipt of Medi-Cal benefits by amnesty aliens and special agricultural workers (SAWs) will not make them a public charge according to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. This means that amnesty aliens and SAWs may receive Medi-Cal and not jeopardize their legalization by doing so. If you have any questions, please contact your local legal aid office or center for immigrant rights."

If we may be of further assistance, please call an analyst assigned to alienage policy.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants

Expiration Date: August 9, 1990