STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
744 P STREET
. BOX 942732
SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320

October 31, 1991

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

Letter No.: 91-96

SUBJECT: 200 Percent Asset Waiver Program

This letter is to confirm the information previously provided by an October 4, 1991 E-Mail which addressed the implementation of the Asset Waiver Program.

The California State Legislature recently passed AB 99 which, among other things, enacted the federal waiver of assets option specifically for pregnant women and infants up to one year of age with incomes which exceed 185 percent but do not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). Those pregnant women and infants with family income at or below 185% FPL do not qualify for this special program. Although the Department supports legislation to implement asset waiver for the entire population of pregnant women and infants under 200 percent of the FPL, AB 99 only addressed women and infants between 185 and 200 percent. Also, the bill contained an urgency clause, meaning that all its provisions were to take effect immediately. However, due to the need for adequate planning and start-up time, the State will implement the 200% Asset Waiver Program no later than January 1, 1992.

Pregnant Women

In determining the eligibility of a pregnant woman, if her family assets exceed the resource limit, and her income exceeds 185% but does not exceed 200% of the FPL, she is eligible for the asset waiver. In this event, the pregnant woman applicant, or the person applying on her behalf, should be advised that her assets do exceed the regular Medi-Cal program resource limit; however, she is still eligible for Medi-Cal for pregnancy-related services only. If the pregnant woman also wishes to receive full-scope benefits for herself and/or the rest of her family, she must reduce her family assets to the property limit in order to establish regular Medi-Cal eligibility.

Infant

In the case of the infant, if the family is over the property limit, the infant is still eligible for full-scope benefits until his /her first birthday.

Notwithstanding the Asset Waiver program, all applicants, including pregnant women and families with infants up to one year of age will still fully complete the current MC 210 Statement of Facts.

A more detailed letter on the implementation of the 200% Asset Waiver Program, including draft regulations and procedures, will be issued at a later date. Until then, if you have any questions, please call Tony Plescia at (916) 657-3185.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch