STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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November 13, 1995

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

Letter No.: 95-69

MEDICAL SUPPORT REFERRALS

Ref: E-Mail No.95000, All County Welfare Directors Letter No. 95-08

The purpose of this letter is to clarify policy on the referral of "adult children" and children with other health coverage to the District Attorney/Family Support Division (DA/FSD) for medical support enforcement. Neither of these children should be referred.

"Adult children" are children in Medi-Cal between the ages of 14 to 18 years of age who are not living in the home of a parent or caretaker relative and who do not have a parent, caretaker relative, or legal guardian handling any of their financial affairs. The parents do not claim the children as dependents in order to receive a tax credit or deduction for state or federal income tax purposes. These children are not eligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) or cash-based AFDC-Medically Needy Only Medi-Cal because they are not dependent children. However, under 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 435.222, the State of California may provide Medi-Cal benefits to individuals under age 21 who would be eligible for AFDC but do not qualify as dependent children.

Children with an absent parent who is voluntarily providing health insurance are eligible for Medi-Cal if all eligibility requirements are met, and the custodial parent or caretaker relative will have linkage based on the child. When the absent parent is already providing other health coverage (OHC) for their child(ren), no referral is necessary.

Both "adult children" and children with voluntarily provided OHC are not to be referred for medical support enforcement. It has been determined by all parties in the medical support process (Department of Social Services/Office of Child Support, DHS, and the DA/FSD) that it is not necessary to make a referral for these children.

If you have any questions, please contact Elena Lara of my staff at (916) 657-0712.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch