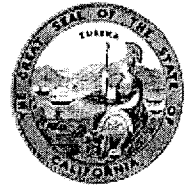




DIANA M. BONTÁ, R.N., Dr. P.H.
Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



GRAY DAVIS
Governor

July 8, 2003

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER NO.: 03-37
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: JUNE 1, 2003 SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME/STATE
SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENT COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

In response to inquiries from counties, this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is intended to clarify that ACWDLs 02-55 (dated November 13, 2002) and 03-21 (dated April 23, 2003) concerning the June 1, 2003, Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) cost of living adjustment (COLA) are still in effect and should be followed until we advise otherwise. ACWDLs 02-55 and 03-21 addressed increases in the payment levels for the SSI/SSP program as a result of a State statutory COLA in SSP. They should be relied upon in determining eligibility for Medi-Cal programs based upon SSI/SSP payment standards.

As you may know, the Governor's budget proposal released in January 2003 and updated in May 2003 proposed that the June 2003 and January 2004 COLAs be suspended. However, there has been no change to the State statute that provides for the June 2003 COLA. Therefore, the payment levels detailed in the above ACWDLs are still accurate.

Please note: Should a Medi-Cal recipient receive a retroactive SSI/SSP payment, that payment should not be included in the property reserve for Medi-Cal purposes for a period of six months after the month in which it was received, pursuant to Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section 50455.



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(916) 657-2941
Internet Address: www.dhs.ca.gov

Should the approved State budget contain any change to the SSI/SSP levels, we will immediately inform counties and address the impact. If you have any questions, please contact Cecilia Kelley of my staff at (916) 657-0168.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Beth Fife, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch