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Director

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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

April 29, 2009

To: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 09-23
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIASONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

Subject: 2009 ECONOMIC RECOVERY PAYMENTS

The purpose of this letter is to instruct the counties regarding a portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 signed by the President on February 17th 2009. Title II, Subtitle C, Section (§) 2201, allows a one-time Economic Recovery Payment of \$250 (two-hundred fifty dollars) to be made to:

- Retirees, disabled individuals and Supplemental Security Income recipients receiving benefits from the Social Security Administration,
- Disabled veterans receiving benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and
- Railroad Retirement beneficiaries.

Section 2201(c)(1) states that these payments are exempt and, as such, are **not** to be counted as income in the month of receipt, or as property for the following nine months for the purposes of determining Medi-Cal eligibility or share-of-cost (SOC).

Applicants/beneficiaries or representatives who report receipt of a \$250 Economic Recovery Payment must provide verification sufficient to identify the nature of the payment in order to receive the income and property exemption.

Counties shall rescind any discontinuance, denial or SOC Notice Of Action (NOA) issued as they become aware of any case that was adversely affected as a result of the delay in implementing this provision of the ARRA. Counties shall then retroactively redetermine eligibility and SOC as appropriate and reissue NOAs as necessary.

The Medi-Cal Eligibility Division is developing instructions regarding the documentation of exempt payments. Those instructions will also address notification requirements to recipients of time-limited exempt payments and will address requirements relating to spenddown notification.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Pritesh Mogera, of my staff, at (916) 650-0140 or via e-mail at pmogera@dhcs.ca.gov

Original Signed By

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division