PETE WILSON, Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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May 20, 1991
Letter No.: 91-50

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

SUBJECT: REPAYMENT OF SHARE OF COST FOR THE 185 PERCENT, 200 PERCENT AND 133 PERCENT PROGRAMS

REFERENCE: ACWDLS 90-106, 91-06

This is to clarify the above All County Welfare Directors Letters which described the process for repayment of the share of cost (SOC) for retroactive 185 percent, 200 percent, and 133 percent program eligibles.

First, to be eligible for retroactive benefits under the above programs, the special zero SOC beneficiary must have had medical expenses listed on his/her or the family's SOC form (MC 177) for the month in question. Counties need not verify that the listed services are covered under Medi-Cal. If the family met its SOC but the beneficiary had no expenses for that month, he/she would not be eligible for a refund.

Second, counties should not wait for the beneficiary to request a refund. If the date of service on the provider's bill is 12 months or less, the beneficiary found retroactively eligible for one of the special zero SOC programs should be sent a Notice of Action and the MC 1054 form with instructions to give the form to his/her provider for processing.

If the date of service on the provider's bill is older than 12 months, a new Medi-Cal card should be issued instead of sending the MC 1054. In this case, the county must issue a retroactive card using the original SOC county I.D. and original SOC aid code. If the beneficiary states that he/she does not wish a refund but prefers an adjustment to a future month's SOC, follow the procedures outlined in Article 12 of the Medi-Cal Eligibility Procedures Manual.

Third, ACWDL 90-106 was incorrect in stating that a special zero SOC beneficiary who met the SOC had to receive his/her SOC card before being eligible for a refund. Special zero SOC beneficiaries do not have to <u>receive</u> their Medi-Cal SOC card before obtaining a refund since the refund is based only on whether they paid all or part of an original SOC.