

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET

P.O. BOX 942732

SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320



March 25, 1991

Letter No.: 91-31

TO: All County Welfare Directors  
All County Administrative Officers

SUBJECT: SNEEDE V. KIZER POSTER

The Department of Health Services (DHS) recently agreed to a proposed settlement in the Sneede v. Kizer lawsuit. The United States District Court ruled that Medi-Cal regulations governing Medi-Cal Family Budget Unit (MFBU) composition violate federal law.

Under the court's order, family budget unit composition rules must ensure that:

- o a stepparent's income and property are not considered available to his/her spouse's separate children;
- o an unmarried couple's income and property are not considered available to each other nor to their separate children;
- o a child's own income and property are not considered available to anyone but him/her; and
- o a caretaker relative's income and property are not considered available to anyone but him/her.

As part of the settlement, DHS agreed to have posters (both English and Spanish) displayed in local offices regularly frequented by Medi-Cal recipients. In addition to the County Welfare departments, the display locations include: Social Security offices, unemployment offices, Veteran Affairs Services and community health facilities.

The posters are intended to assist in the identification of the class members who were either denied benefits or were discontinued from Medi-Cal. They must include an address where beneficiaries may write, and a telephone number where they may call to get more information about this settlement.

We are requesting that each county place the appropriate address and telephone number on each poster and distribute them to all of your district offices within your county.

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A supply of posters (posters are 11" x 17") will be sent to your agency by April 1, 1991. They should be posted upon receipt and remain posted until April 1, 1992.

We have planned to send an adequate supply to each department or agency; however, if you need additional copies or information, please contact Craig Yagi of my staff at (916) 327-5320 or ATSS 497-5320.

A copy of the poster is included with this letter for your information.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

FRANK S. MARTUCCI, CHIEF  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons  
Medi-Cal Program Consultants