

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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BOX 942732

SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320



August 21, 1991

Letter No.: 91-73

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

SUBJECT: WAIVER OF QUALITY CONTROL ERRORS DUE TO THE SNEEDE V. KIZER
PROCEDURES

The purpose of this letter is to inform all counties of a one-year county waiver of all quality control (QC) errors due to the changes implemented by the Sneede v. Kizer lawsuit.

As you are aware, the Sneede v. Kizer procedures for current and ongoing cases were implemented effective April 1, 1991. Counties have expressed concern about the complexity of the Sneede changes and the potential for errors. They suggested a one-year waiver of all QC errors assessed due to the Sneede changes.

In response to county concerns, we have decided to approve the waiver request. Therefore, beginning with the April 1991 month of review and continuing for a period of one year through the March 1992 month of review, all QC errors which are directly attributable to the Sneede v. Kizer changes will be State-assumed. During this period, any QC error due to Sneede will still be cited by our QC staff. An error letter will be sent to the county to give the county the opportunity to appeal. However, if the county fails in the appeal process, the error will be State-assumed and will not be included in the county's case error rate.

Counties are reminded that since Sneede errors will still be assessed, they have the potential to impact the statewide case and dollar error rates and thereby subject the state to dollar error rate sanctions imposed by the Federal Health Care Financing Administration. We are confident that your eligibility staff will continue to exercise diligence in maintaining the high accuracy standards which have been prevalent in the past years, so that California's QC dollar error rate may remain below the tolerance level of 3.0 percent.

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We wish to thank all counties for their assistance and cooperation in implementing this complex lawsuit. If you have any questions or comments regarding this QC waiver decision, please feel free to call Mr. Ricardo Bustamante, Chief of the Quality Control Section, at (916) 324-4952.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants