

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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November 1, 1994

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County Pickle Coordinators

Letter No.: 94-84

**2.3 PERCENT IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICE (IHSS) RECIPIENTS WHO SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
"OLD" PICKLE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS**

Ref.: All County Welfare Directors Letter No. 94-45 and E-Mail No. 94124

The purpose of this letter is to address situations involving discontinued IHSS recipients and their subsequent Pickle determination.

Situation 1: This covers individuals who are discontinued from IHSS as of September 1, 1994 and who were IHSS as well as Pickle eligible in August 1994.

- A. First, evaluate these individuals for the regular Pickle program using the September 1, 1994 Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program (SSI/SSP) levels. If eligible, they are a regular Pickle eligible and put into aid code 16, 26, or 66.
- B. If ineligible for regular Pickle due to income, treat these persons as if the 2.3 percent reduction had not taken place. These individuals will be considered "old" Pickle beneficiaries since they had to choose between the IHSS and Pickle programs. They will be aided under aid codes 14, 24 or 64 until new aid codes are established. That is, they will be subject to all regular Pickle requirements except for the income standard which remains at the SSI/SSP income levels which were in effect before the 2.3 percent SSI/SSP reduction on September 1, 1994. These individuals must be redetermined under Pickle eligibility rules (e.g., property at \$2,000 for a single person and \$3,000 for a couple). Also, if their income rises above the SSI/SSP income levels which were in effect on August 31, 1994 (e.g., \$603.40 for a single person after all disregards were applied including the disregard of all cost of living adjustments), they will no longer be eligible for the grandfathered Pickle program. Please note, however, that this discontinuance does not preclude them from being found eligible for the 2.3 percent grandfathered group at a future time.

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Situation 2: This covers individuals who were discontinued from IHSS as of September 1, 1993 and who were IHSS as well as Pickle eligible in August 1993. These individuals were first evaluated for regular Pickle. If ineligible, they were covered under the 2.7 percent grandfathering provision and put into aid code 14, 24, or 64. Individuals from this 2.7 percent grandfathered group who now would theoretically be discontinued under that program due to the 2.3 percent reduction continue to be grandfathered in and treated as if the 2.7 percent and 2.3 percent reductions had not occurred. These individuals will continue in aid codes 14, 24, or 64 until they go into the new aid code(s) sometime in the near future.

If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia Finberg of my staff at (916) 657-0080.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

FRANK S. MARTUCCI, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch