

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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October 1, 1996

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaison

Letter No.: 96-57

**IMPACT OF ALIEN PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND
WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996 (HR 3734) ON THE
MEDI-CAL PROGRAM**

As you are aware, the President signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 on August 22, 1996. The legislation contains significant changes with respect to the provision of benefits to legal immigrants in California. However, we are still assessing the impact of these changes and have not yet received specific implementation instructions from federal agencies. Until further notice, counties should continue to operate the Medi-Cal program using existing regulations.

Because of changes in federal eligibility, county welfare departments are instructed to flag new Medi-Cal applications where the applicant is a legal alien (in any category) or is claiming to have permanently residing in the United States under color of law status. Detailed instructions on flagging these applications will follow.

We will notify you with further details as soon as they are available.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Marlene King of my staff at (916) 657-0134.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch