

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



August 19, 2003

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-53-03

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
 Federal Law or Regulation Change
 Court Order
 Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
 Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: RESTORATION OF BENEFITS TO LEGAL NONCITIZENS – MANDATORY CHANGES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2003

REFERENCE: Public Law 107-171 of May 13, 2002, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Administrative Notice (AN) 03-04 dated October 21, 2002, AN 03-12 dated January 3, 2003, All-County Letter (ACL) 02-67 dated September 3, 2002, and ACL 03-08 dated February 11, 2003.

The purpose of this letter is to remind counties of the requirement to not only implement the recent changes to the Food Stamp Program which restored federal eligibility to otherwise eligible legal noncitizens who have resided in the United States for five years, but to also correctly report the transition of these individuals from state to federal on the Food Stamp Program Participation and Coupon Issuance Report (DFA 256). These changes became effective April 1, 2003.

Recent data collected from the counties reflect that some counties may not be reporting the transition of all affected recipients from CFAP to federal eligibility in a timely manner. As a result, the DFA 256 reports may not reflect the required changes. As stated in the implementing ACL 03-08, "...the April 2003 DFA 256 report must reflect the transition of aided legal noncitizens who will move from state funded to federally funded food stamp benefits."

Although there is a 120-day hold harmless period for quality control purposes, it does not apply to the requirement that counties accurately report the changes effective April 1, 2003. Therefore, counties must ensure that the transition of affected recipients is complete, and that corrected DFA 256 reports are submitted for any month that does not accurately reflect the required transition of these individuals.

If you have any questions regarding the proper completion of the DFA 256 report, please contact Sharon Shinpaugh of the Data Systems and Survey Design Bureau at (916) 654-1212. For questions regarding the regulation changes or this notice, please contact Bill Mullinax of the Food Stamp Policy Development Bureau at (916) 657-3418.

Sincerely,

Original document signed by

RIGHTON YEE, Chief
Food Stamp Branch