



**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814

May 3, 1985

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 85-50

TO: ALL "COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES: IHSS POLICY POSITION ON THE  
DEFINITION OF "PARENT"

REFERENCE:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the definition of "parent" for the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program as used in Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 30-763.245 and Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) Section 12300.

This issue was brought to the attention of the Department of Social Services (DSS) because of a recent fair hearing which included the issue of whether or not the term "parent", as referenced in MPP 30-763.245, includes grand-parent or legal guardian.

MPP 30-763.245 implements provisions of W&IC 12300, which sets out the circumstances under which a person having the legal duty under the Civil Code to provide for the care of his/her child may be paid for providing IHSS. Under the Civil Code, this legal duty is imposed only on adoptive or natural parents as defined in the Uniform Civil Liability for Support Act, Civil Code Section 241 et seq. Therefore, the limiting conditions set forth under MPP 30-763.245 apply only to services purchased from adoptive or natural parents.

Should you have any further questions, please contact your Adult and Family Services Operations Bureau consultant at (916) 322-6671.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Loren D. Suter", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title of the signatory.

LOREN D. SUTER  
Deputy Director  
Adult and Family Services

cc: CWDA