

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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December 7, 2001

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County Mental Health Directors
All County Health Executives

Letter No.: 01-65

RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION TRUST FUND PAYMENTS ARE EXEMPT FROM CONSIDERATION AS INCOME AND PROPERTY UNDER ALL MEDI-CAL PROGRAMS

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties that in accordance with Section 6 (h)(2) of Public Law 101-426, of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act of 1990, payments made from any fund established pursuant to this act shall be considered exempt income and property, when determining eligibility, or the amount of benefits under Medi-Cal. This act provides for compassionate payments with regard to some individuals who were exposed to fallout emitted during nuclear testing in Nevada during the 1950s and a brief period in 1962. In addition, the act covers some individuals employed in uranium mines during the period of January 1, 1947, to December 31, 1971.

Therefore, as soon as a county becomes aware of such a case that may have been denied or discontinued due to the receipt of such payments and the delay in issuing this letter, counties must rescind the denial or discontinuance and establish eligibility as otherwise eligible.

Regulations and procedures will be updated at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kim McCord for property questions at (916) 657-3723, or Mr. Dave Rappolee for income questions at (916) 657-0163.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Richard Brantingham
Acting Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch