



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

January 18, 2007

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 07-02
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: INCOME AND PROPERTY EXEMPTIONS FOR IN-HOME
CAREGIVERS, RESTAURANT MEALS ALLOWANCES AND ADVANCE
PAYMENTS FOR PURCHASING IN-HOME CARE SERVICES
(Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letters 05-29 and 06-04)

The purpose of this letter is to notify counties that in-home caregiver wages paid to a household member shall be exempt as income and property when both of the following conditions are met:

- 1) The caregiver is being paid for providing the in-home care to his/her spouse or minor child living in the home, and
- 2) The spouse or minor child is receiving those in-home services through any federal, state or local government program.

Payments made by the California Department of Social Services to an in-home care recipient for the purpose of purchasing in-home care services, including restaurant meals, shall be exempt as income and property.

For purposes of this income and property exemption, the definition of a minor child is up to age 21.

The effective date of these income and property exemptions is January 1, 2005. The California Department of Health Services staff has no knowledge of any individual being adversely impacted by the delay in providing this instruction. If county staff becomes aware of anyone who has been adversely affected by the delay in providing this instruction, counties must recalculate the share of cost for any month beginning January 1, 2005 and rescind any discontinuance or denial as appropriate.

All payments made under the In-Home Support Service Independence Plus Waiver remain exempt as income and property in accordance with All County Welfare Directors Letter Numbers 05-29 and 06-04.

All questions regarding this issue should be directed to Ms. Tammy Kaylor at (916) 552-9496.

Original signed by

Maria Enriquez, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch