

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento CA 95814



August 3, 1988

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-74-88

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Probation Departments
All Juvenile Court Judges

SUBJECT: INTERSTATE COMPACT ON THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN

At the recent national meeting of the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (AAICPC), changes in the process and procedures of the Compact were discussed. The focus of many of the discussions was the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) and PL 96-272 and coordination of their requirements as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

The ICPC issue which most concerned member states was termination of jurisdiction. While there were a number of points of view among the states represented, the AAICPC has established a committee, of which California is a member, to review this issue, as well as others, and to report to the Association at the next annual meeting. As the committee develops information and positions, we shall share these with the counties.

In order to make this effort successful, we need your continued cooperation and support. It is important that we continue to work with the other states and follow the current procedures and regulations as this committee studies the issues. All County Information Notice (ACIN) 1-32-88 covers the topics of supervision and the termination of jurisdiction. Since these areas often generate disagreements between California and other states, you may wish to refer your staff to the aforementioned ACIN.

The AAICPC meeting also addressed two other issues: (1) when a home study can be requested and (2) returning a child to his/her parent. Guidelines for dealing with these procedures are as follows:

- (1) A state may request a home study prior to a dispositional hearing held pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 358. Presumably, the family being studied is under serious consideration as a placement resource.

(2) When a child has been separated from his or her parent(s), and the legal rights of the parent(s) to the custody of the child are intact and no services are requested of another state, the ICPC is not applicable. In such case, the return of the child to his or her parent(s) should not be construed as a "placement" for ICPC purposes since custody of the child still rests with the parent(s). For example, if an out-of-state parent allows the child to vacation with a relative and the relative abandons the child in California, the local county welfare department may return the child to the parent without having to follow ICPC procedures. However, the ICPC would govern if the parent's custodial rights have been limited in any way by a juvenile court order and services to be provided by the other state are requested.

The Interstate Placement Bureau will be conducting ICPC training in the upcoming year and will cover these and other ICPC topics and procedures.

We look forward to working with the other states on the AAICPC committee and local county staff to improve the ICPC process.

If you have any questions, please contact your Interstate Placement Bureau consultant at (916) 323-2923.



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cc: County Welfare Directors Association