

**DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS**  
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-322-8538



July 25, 1977

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 77-33 (Civil Rights)

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON HANDICAP

REFERENCE:

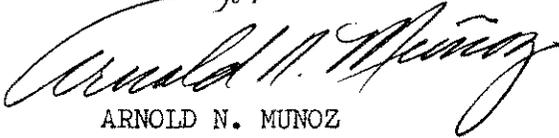
The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare regulations implementing Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 went into effect on June 3, 1977. These regulations provide that "no qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from Federal financial assistance." A "qualified handicapped person" is a person who: (1) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, (2) has a record of such an impairment, or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

The Department of Benefit Payments and the 58 county welfare departments, as recipients of Federal funds from HEW, fall under the requirements of these new regulations. A recipient of Federal funds is required to: (1) insure that its personnel practices do not discriminate on the basis of handicap, (2) insure that service delivery does not discriminate on the basis of handicap, and (3) insure that private or public social service agencies that receive referral or financial assistance from DBP or the county welfare departments do not discriminate on the basis of handicap.

DBP is developing regulations and procedures to assist county welfare departments in their implementation of the 504 regulations. In the meantime, we would appreciate being kept informed of incidents of alleged violations or complaints. Such complaints should be resolved on an individual case basis.

We will continue to keep the county welfare departments informed on other relevant material. If you have any questions or concerns related to the new regulations, please contact Cy Hubbard at 916-322-8538.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arnold N. Munoz".

ARNOLD N. MUNOZ  
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA