

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



October 27, 1988

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 88-138

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING (FSET) PROGRAM:
DEFERRALS FROM PARTICIPATION - NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING

This is to inform you of a proposed change in the Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSET) Program deferral criteria. Because of a change in Federal policy, non-English speaking individuals can no longer be deferred from participation in FSET. Regulatory actions have been initiated to repeal this provision in MPP 63-407.811(c)(8). We are requesting an emergency filing effective January 1, 1989.

Pending the repeal of this section of regulations, Counties must continue to defer these persons. However, such deferrals must be granted only within the regulatory definition. It has come to our attention, through a Federal program review of FSET, that some Counties are granting deferrals to non-English speaking persons on a categorical basis. This is not the intent of the current regulations, which allow such deferral **only** if the CWD does not have staff that speak the individual's language or if there are no jobs for persons who do not speak English.

The revised quarterly statistical reporting form, STAT 40, no longer contains this deferral category. Therefore, for the first quarter of Federal fiscal year (FFY) 1989 (October through December 1988) Counties must annotate the form, indicating how many persons have been deferred through this criteria.

Beginning with the second quarter of FFY 1989 (January through March, 1989) non-English speaking individuals will be reported as mandatory participants unless they meet one of the other deferral criteria. Counties should make every effort to refer these persons to a FSET component if they are in the targeted population.

If you have any questions regarding exemptions or deferrals, please contact your GAIN and Employment Services County Operations Analyst at (916) 324-6962. Questions regarding reporting procedures may be directed to Mr. Anthony Armenta, Statistical Services Section, at (916) 323-4942

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. J. Boyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DENNIS J. BOYLE
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA