

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



December 2, 1988

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 88-153

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: SENATE BILL 510

This letter is to inform County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of a Federal change affecting the Title IV-E Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) - Foster Care Program. Under the provisions of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1987, effective April 1, 1988, the aid payment for a minor parent who receives AFDC-Foster Care is to include an amount for the cost of care for the minor parent's child who lives with the parent in placement. The infants of the minor parents are not considered to be in out-of-home placement, but the costs of their care are to be funded by AFDC-Foster Care. This change is now part of the Federal Title IV-E AFDC-Foster Care Program and all States are required to implement the new provisions.

Prior to the passage of OBRA, the AFDC-Foster Care payments for minor parents did not cover the cost of care for their children living with them in foster placement. However, the children of minor parents were eligible to receive aid payments under the AFDC-Family Group Program. With the passage of OBRA, AFDC-Foster Care payments for minor parents are now required to cover the cost of care for their children living with them. The OBRA also prohibits AFDC-Family Group Program payments for children who live with parents who are AFDC-Foster Care recipients.

A State law change was necessary to implement the OBRA provisions in California. Senate Bill (SB) 510 (Chapter 1066, Statutes of 1988) was an urgency statute which implemented the required State law changes. The Bill provides the statutory authority for the supplemental payment to be added to the current AFDC-Foster Care rate for the minor mother. The Bill further removes the current AFDC-Family Group eligibility to the infants of minor parents receiving AFDC-Foster Care. The provision to begin the AFDC-Foster Care supplemental payment required by SB 510 is scheduled for March 1, 1989, based on the filing of State Emergency Regulations.

In order to implement SB 510 in a manner which will not result in AFDC-Family Group overpayments, it is imperative that all AFDC-Foster Care eligible minor parents living with their children and currently receiving AFDC-Family Group be identified. This is a critical component of the implementation process. As of March 1, 1989, the minor parent will no longer be eligible to receive AFDC-Family Group payment for their child(ren) with them in foster care placement. Any AFDC-Family Group payments released to these minor parents after the implementation date will be considered an AFDC overpayment.

Identification of these children is also imperative in order to release the required Notice of Action in a timely manner for termination of the AFDC-Family Group payment and to establish the supplemental amount to be included in the minor mother's AFDC-Foster Care payment.

To locate and identify the minor parents who are receiving AFDC-Foster Care and are in placement with their infants, we are requesting CWDs to develop a flyer for inclusion in the next AFDC-Foster Care payroll mailing. The following is the required language for the county-developed flyer.

"If you are a foster care provider for a minor parent with a child, please call your case worker within 10 working days to see if you can get a Parent/Child Supplemental payment"

Instructions and implementation processes will be released to the CWDs under a separate All-County Letter in approximately 30 days.

If you have any questions, please contact your Foster Care Program analyst at (916) 445-0813.



ROBERT A. HOREL
Deputy Director
Welfare Program Division