

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN REGULATIONS OF THE  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS)

ITEM # 1 Restaurant Meals for the Homeless, Elderly, and Disabled

CDSS hereby gives notice of the proposed regulatory action(s) described below. Any person interested may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the proposed regulations at a public hearing to be held July 16, 2003, as follows:

July 16, 2003  
Office Building # 9  
744 P St. Auditorium  
Sacramento, California

The public hearing will convene at 10:00 a.m. and will remain open only as long as attendees are presenting testimony. The Department will adjourn the hearing immediately following the completion of testimony presentations. The above-referenced facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of a language interpreter at the hearing (including sign language), please notify the Department at least two weeks prior to the hearing.

Statements or arguments relating to the proposals may also be submitted in writing, e-mail, or by facsimile to the address/number listed below. All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on July 16, 2003.

CDSS, upon its own motion or at the instance of any interested party, may adopt the proposals substantially as described or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of nonsubstantive, technical, or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be available for 15 days prior to its adoption to all persons who testify or submit written comments during the public comment period, and all persons who request notification. Please address requests for regulations as modified to the agency representative identified below.

Copies of the express terms of the proposed regulations and the Initial Statement of Reasons are available from the office listed below. This notice, the Initial Statement of Reasons and the text of the proposed regulations are available on the internet at <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/ord>. Additionally, all the information which the Department considered as the basis for these proposed regulations (i.e., rulemaking file) is available for public reading/perusal at the address listed below.

Following the public hearing, copies of the Final Statement of Reasons will be available from the office listed below.

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## CHAPTERS

Manual of Policies and Procedures, Division 63 (Food Stamp Regulations), Chapter 63-100 (General Provisions), Section 63-102 (Definitions) and Chapter 63-500 (Eligibility Determinations), Section 63-504 (Household Certification)

## INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

These regulations implement and make specific 7 CFR 272.2, 7 CFR 274.10, and 7 CFR 278. Currently in California food stamps cannot be used to purchase hot foods prepared for immediate consumption. Homeless recipients may use food stamps to purchase prepared meals from meal providers for the homeless. Federal regulation 7 CFR 271.2 defines seniors, disabled members, their spouses, and private establishments that contract to offer meals at concessional prices. Regulations at 7 CFR 274.10 define identification cards and authorized meal purchases for eligible households of seniors, disabled and homeless people. Regulations at 7 CFR 278 define procedures for redeeming coupons including private homeless meals providers and specify the option to implement a contract between counties and individual restaurants that are willing to provide reduced price meals to recipients using food stamp benefits.

Proposed regulations 63-102 and 63-504 would enact these federal regulations as county options to allow eligible homeless, elderly and disabled people greater independence and lessen the demand placed on community resources such as soup kitchens. Participating restaurants could increase revenues.

## COST ESTIMATE

1. Costs or Savings to State Agencies: Insignificant cost impact.
2. Costs to Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
3. Nondiscretionary Costs or Savings to Local Agencies: Insignificant cost impact.
4. Federal Funding to State Agencies: Insignificant cost impact.

## LOCAL MANDATE STATEMENT

These regulations do not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts. There are no state-mandated local costs in this order that require reimbursement under the laws of California.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESS

CDSS has made an initial determination that the proposed action will not have a significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

**STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL COST IMPACT ON PRIVATE PERSONS OR BUSINESSES**  
CDSS is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

**SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

CDSS has determined that there could be an impact on small businesses as a result of filing these regulations, but only if the small businesses opt to participate.

**ASSESSMENT OF JOB CREATION OR ELIMINATION**

The adoption of the proposed amendments will neither create nor eliminate jobs in the State of California nor result in the elimination of existing businesses or create or expand businesses in the State of California.

**STATEMENT OF EFFECT ON HOUSING COSTS**

The proposed regulatory action will have no effect on housing costs.

**STATEMENT OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

CDSS must determine that no reasonable alternative considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of CDSS would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulations are proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

**AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE CITATIONS**

CDSS adopts these regulations under the authority granted in Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 10553, 10554, and 18904. Subject regulations implement and make specific 7 CFR 271.2, 7 CFR 274.10, 7 CFR 274.12, and 7 CFR 278.1.

**CDSS REPRESENTATIVE REGARDING RULEMAKING PROCESS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION**

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AGENDA ITEM(S) FOR THIS PUBLIC HEARING - July 16, 2003

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