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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 93 LCM-127

Date: September 21, 1993

Division: Office of the
Commissioner

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: National Voter Registration Act of 1993 ("Motor Voter")

ATTACHMENTS: None

As you know, the President recently signed the National Voter Registration Act which affirms the principle that government has an obligation to enroll the eligible electorate. To meet this end, the law requires States to offer voter registration services as an integral part of the application process in agencies providing drivers' licenses, public assistance, and state-funded programs to persons with disabilities. Voter registration services must also be provided in armed forces recruitment offices. At their discretion, states may designate other offices as voter registration agencies.

The definition of "public assistance" has not yet come from HHS; however, the Conference Report indicates that states must offer voter registration services in conjunction with applications for services/assistance, recertifications, renewals or changes of address in the AFDC, Food Stamps, Medicaid and WIC programs.

Some of the voter registration services stipulated by the legislation include distributing voter registration applications, assisting applicants to complete them, and transmitting the completed forms to appropriate election officials.

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To assure that the State implements the law in a coordinated fashion, the State Board of Elections established an ad hoc advisory task force to study issues and recommend to the Governor and Legislature appropriate legislation and procedures to be enacted for full compliance. We are represented on the task force and will be addressing these requirements as they impact our operations. We will endeavor to keep the requirements imposed on local districts to a minimum. The law takes effect January 1, 1995 unless states need to pass constitutional amendments in order to comply with certain provisions of the legislation. If that is the case, the effective date would then be extended to January 1, 1996 or 120 days after the date in which a constitutional amendment is legally possible without having to hold special elections.

Should you wish copies of the legislation, please contact Diana R. Malkonian at 1-800-342-3715, extension 3-6661 (User ID# 0BIA10). We will keep you informed on activities of the task force.

Karen Schimke
Executive Deputy Commissioner