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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 97 LCM-32

Date: April 24, 1997

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of Medicaid Management

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Notice to Certain Disabled Children Affected by Welfare Reform

ATTACHMENTS: Notice of Disability Redetermination
(Not Available On-Line)

On February 6, 1997, the Department of Health sent local social services commissioners a letter concerning several provisions in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 that affect payment of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to certain individuals. Enclosed with that letter was a fact sheet describing the new definition of disability for children and a sample letter that was to be used by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to advise families that their child's SSI case may require review under the new law. The letter described the procedures that will be used to redetermine eligibility under the new law and informed parents that SSI payments will not stop before July 1, 1997 as long as the child meets all other eligibility rules.

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform social services districts that a second type of letter has been sent by SSA. This letter concerns SSA's actual review of a child's SSI case. Enclosed is an example of the letter. Although the letter primarily addresses the need for additional medical information for purposes of establishing disability under the new rules, it does include information about Medicaid benefits.

The letter informs the individual that, if SSI benefits stop, any Medicaid benefits that are being provided based on the receipt of SSI may also stop. The individual is informed that, if this happens, the Medicaid agency should contact the individual, or the individual can call the Medicaid agency to see if he or she may qualify for continued Medicaid.

Please note that this letter is not a termination notice. It is our understanding that the termination notices will have a 1-800 number for individuals to call this Department for further information on the

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availability of Medicaid benefits. In accordance with 80 ADM-19, Stenson et al v. Blum, we will advise callers that Medicaid benefits will continue until a separate determination for Medicaid eligibility is made. Furthermore, we will advise that in the event that the individual is determined ineligible for Medicaid, he or she will be sent a notice.

I hope this information is of assistance to you. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Wendy Butz, of my staff, at (518) 473-5500.

Ann Clemency Kohler
Director
Office of Medicaid Management