



# County of Santa Cruz

## HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

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May 24, 2002

AGENDA: June 11, 2002

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA. 95060

### APPROVE REGULATION CHANGES TO THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Dear Members of the Board:

As you know, General Assistance (GA) is a state mandated, 100% County-funded program that provides cash assistance to eligible disabled or unemployed single adult county residents who are ineligible for other aid programs. Each year the GA program regulations are reviewed for compliance with state law under the Welfare and Institutions Code 17000. Regulations are revised based on regulatory or administrative changes. The purpose of this letter is to have your Board approve recommended changes to the General Assistance program regulations effective July 1, 2002.

This year, there are only minor GA regulations changes proposed. Minor wording changes are included such as replacing "AFDC" with "CalWORKs" and "Alien" with "Non-citizen". In addition, there is an increase in time allowed for the GA client to report changes in income or other circumstances that may affect eligibility. This increase, from 5 to 10 days, is consistent with the Food Stamp program. The majority of GA recipients are also Food Stamp recipients. As legally mandated and per previous Board resolution, the proposed GA budget for FY 02/03 reflects the most recent CalWORKs cost of living increase of 5.31%. These changes have been reviewed and approved by the Human Services Commission and California Rural Legal Assistance. A *summary* of the changes is attached.

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED** that your Board approve recommended changes to the General Assistance program regulations effective July 1, 2002.

Very truly yours,

CECILIA ESPINOLA

Human Resources Agency Director

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

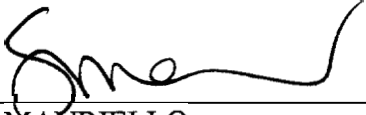
Page 2

Agenda: June 11, 2002

**APPROVE REGULATION CHANGES TO THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

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RECOMMENDED:



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SUSANA A. MAURIELLO  
County Administrative Officer

CC: County Administrative Office  
California Rural Legal Assistance  
Human Services Commission  
HRA Fiscal

# ATTACHMENT A

## PROPOSED GENERAL ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS BUDGET YEAR FY 02-03

General Assistance Manual Section	Current Regulation	Proposed Regulation	Program Impact	Fiscal Impact
Employment & Rehabilitation Chapter V	Includes requirements to participate in the Work Adjustment Training Program (WAPT)	Would delete all requirements for this program. Program has been discontinued.	None.	None.
Ineligibility Due to Transfer of Property Chapter VII, B, 3	A person may not transfer property for the purpose of qualifying for General Assistance. Current regulation does not specify a time-frame to consider for transfer of property.	Add a time-frame of three months to consider for transfer of property.	Provides a consistent regulation for GA workers to follow.	None.
Reporting Responsibilities Chapter III & VIII	Requires reporting of changes in income or circumstances to the Agency within five days.	Change reporting would be required within ten days.	This change would make all reporting responsibilities consistent.	None.
Income Disregard Chapter VIII, D	Exempts income from Federal Energy Assistance payments, renter's credit and training expenses paid to participants of Dept of Rehabilitation programs.	Would add prison release money to the list of exemptions.	Aligns regulations with current procedure.	None.