

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

Economic Independence Section • 325 North Salisbury Street 2420 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2420 Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary Pheon E. Beal, Director (919) 733-3055

September 12, 2001

Re: State TANF Plan

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Work First Supervisors

The General Assembly has approved the State TANF Plan for October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2003. Division staff are now making changes requested by the General Assembly and preparing to submit the Plan to the federal Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for certification.

The General Assembly's action (Senate Bill 61) designated the following Electing Counties: Caldwell, Caswell, Davie, Henderson, Iredell, Lenoir, Lincoln, Macon, McDowell, Randolph, Sampson, Surry, and Wilkes. All other counties will operate Standard programs, and Cabarrus County will also continue the Work Over Welfare program.

The state will not implement the Standard program until approval is received from DHHS and/or until necessary automation is in place. Policy changes reflective of the new plan will be issued according to the usual change procedures.

Effective October 1, the Electing Counties listed above may implement their Electing policies at their discretion. If Electing Counties need automation changes to the state systems, they will have to decide whether to implement their policies and work around the automated systems or to wait for automation changes to be made. Also effective October 1, Electing Counties will be responsible for both first and second level Work First hearings according to the hearing policies contained in their plans.

We will be in further contact with counties that are changing their Electing or Standard status to give more detailed instructions. If you have questions, feel free to contact Deborah Landry at (919) 733-7831.

Sincerely,

Wilbert R. Morris, Chief Economic Independence Section

cb cc: Economic Independence El-19-2001