

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 Odom, Secretary Pheon E. Beal, Director (919) 733-3055

November 21, 2002

Re: Notification of January 2003

Mass Change

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food Stamp Supervisors

Food stamp recipients will receive notification of the upcoming Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) mass change that is effective January 1, 2003. The change will increase Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits by 1.4% and also increase the Medicare Part B premium to \$58.70. Laser-printed notices will be mailed to all food stamp recipients during the month of December. A copy of the notice is copied on the back of this letter.

If you have any questions about the notices or the mailing procedures, please call the Economic Independence Section at 919-733-7831.

Sincerely,

Wilbert R. Morris, Chief Economic Independence Section

SJB/bh Attachment **EI-33-2002**