

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

BOARD AGENDA # *B-2

Urgent Routine X

AGENDA DATE MAY 8, 2001

CEO Concur with Recommendation YES *ph* NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO X

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO INCREASE GENERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS BY 2.96%
EFFECTIVE 7/1/2001. THIS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH WELFARE AND
INSTITUTIONS CODE 17001.5.

STAFF RECOMMEN- 1. APPROVE THE INCREASE OF GENERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS BY 2.96%
DATIONS: EFFECTIVE 7/1/2001. THIS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH WELFARE AND
INSTITUTIONS CODE 17001.5.

FISCAL IMPACT: The increased cost to the County's General Fund for fiscal year 2001/2002 is
estimated to be \$26,000, based on current expenditures in this program. This
increase has been included in the Agency's proposed budget for FY 2001/2002.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2001-344

On motion of Supervisor Blom, Seconded by Supervisor Caruso
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Mayfield, Blom, Simon, Caruso, and Chair Paul

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

Motion:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

By: Deputy

File No.

APPROVAL TO INCREASE GENERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS BY 2.96% EFFECTIVE 7/1/2001. THIS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE 17001.5.
Page 2

DISCUSSION: Welfare and Institutions Code, section 17001.5 authorizes counties to set General Assistance grant levels based on the 1991 poverty level, and states that counties may adjust the level annually to reflect changes in the AFDC (currently identified as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families [TANF] program). This method has been used in Stanislaus County since 1993 and has proven to be fair and effective. The alternative would be to determine the grant by "market-basket-survey" which would result in a much higher grant. The poverty level methodology meets the objective to assure that a one person General Assistance grant does not exceed the amount for one person in the TANF program.

All County Letter 00-50 directs counties to increase TANF payments by 2.96%. This increase was effective 10/01/00. As the County is obliged to consider increases annually, this request is made to be effective July 1, 2001, the beginning of the County's fiscal year. With Board approval, the grants for General Assistance recipients would increase as shown in the *attached table* effective 7/1/01.

We are requesting this increase prior to approval of the FY 2001/2002 budget to ensure all customers receive their grant increases in a timely manner and to avoid the additional workload and expense of issuing retroactive benefits.

**POLICY
ISSUE:**

This request supports the Board's priority of safe, healthy communities by providing additional temporary support to the indigent community to defray the increase in the cost of basic necessities.

**STAFFING
IMPACT:**

None.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE MONTHLY GRANT AMOUNTS
To be effective July 1, 2001

Persons Count	Current Maximum* Grant Amount	New Maximum* Grant Amount	Increase In Grant
1	301	310	9
2	404	416	12
3	508	523	15
4	610	628	18
5	712	733	21
6	816	840	24
7	919	946	27
8	1022	1052	30
9	1123	1156	33
10	1227	1263	36
Additional Persons	103	106	3

* There is a \$40 deduction for medical and the grant can be further reduced for shared housing.