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*Director*

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
*Governor*

February 1, 2010

Debra Whitford, WIC Program Director  
Supplemental Food Programs Division  
Food and Nutrition Service  
United States Department of Agriculture  
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 520  
Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Ms. Whitford:

FNS-2006-0037-0007, REVISION IN THE WIC FOOD PACKAGE RULE TO  
INCREASE CASH VALUE VOUCHERS FOR WOMEN, INTERIM RULE

The California Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) strongly supports the Interim Rule to Increase Cash Value Vouchers for Women published in the Federal Register on December 31, 2009.

The cash-value voucher (CVV) is very popular with our participants because it allows them to buy a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. The addition of this benefit greatly enhances WIC's contribution to building healthy eating habits and preventing obesity and other chronic diseases. Therefore, we are very supportive of the recent amendment that increases the women's dollar amount from \$8 to \$10; however, we urge the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to work with Congress to secure funding to also increase the dollar amount for fully breastfeeding women by at least \$2 per month and children from \$6 to the \$8 level recommended by the Institute of Medicine (IOM).

Sincerely,

Linnea E. Sallack, MPH, RD, Chief  
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program



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