



State of New Jersey

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
QUAKERBRIDGE PLAZA—BUILDING 5 & 7 & 12
QUAKERBRIDGE ROAD
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08619

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
CN-712
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0712

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO: 90-13 **DATE:** March 15, 1990

TO: County Welfare Agency/Board of Social Services Directors

SUBJECT: Exclusion of the Value of Travel Tickets from Income - Aged, Blind, and Disabled Cases

Public Law 101-239 (the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989) provides for the exclusion of gifts of travel tickets for domestic travel from consideration as income in the SSI program. Because, in determining eligibility for aged, blind, and disabled individuals for Medicaid Only and New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Programs (including the medically needy segment) and the various waiver programs, this State uses SSI criteria, the following policy applies.

The receipt by gift of any travel ticket for domestic travel received by an individual (or his or her spouse) on or after March 1, 1990 will be excluded from income so long as the ticket is not converted to cash. For the purposes of this income exclusion, *domestic travel* is defined as travel within the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The value of any ticket received by an individual which is not for domestic travel, shall be counted as income in the month of receipt.

If any domestic travel ticket which is received by gift is converted to cash in the month of receipt, it shall be counted as income in that month. If the ticket is retained in the month following its receipt the value of the ticket will be counted as a resource as of the first moment of that month.

This communication does not change the policy regarding the receipt of a cash gift. Should an individual receive cash intended for the purchase of travel tickets, the value of the cash would be counted as income unless it can be excluded as infrequent and irregular income as specified at N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.3(a)12.

Questions concerning this policy should be referred to the field representative assigned to your county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saul M. Kilstein for".

Saul M. Kilstein
Director

SMK:RHh

cc: Marion E. Reitz, Director
Division of Economic Assistance

Nicholas Scalera, Acting Director
Division of Youth and Family Services