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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

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TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Early Start Specialized Therapeutic Services Requirements

The purpose of the letter is to provide clarification on the program advisory letter dated October 18, 2001, regarding Early Start Specialized Therapeutic Services (billed under service code 116) that required Department authorization for the use of this service. Regional centers are no longer required to request authorization to vendor qualified providers in Early Start Specialized Therapeutic Services.

Applicants that meet the requirements stated in the service definition (e.g. 1 years' experience working with persons with developmental disabilities) may be vendored by a regional center without Department approval. Questions from regional centers should be directed to ratesquestions@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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CAROLINE CASTANEDA
Deputy Director
Waiver and Rates Division

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
Jim Knight, Department of Developmental Services
Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services