

Department of Human Resources 311 West Saratoga Street Baltimore MD 21201 Control Number: FIA INFORMATION MEMO

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TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS/ELIGIBILITY STAFF

- FROM: CHARLES HENRY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA JOSEPH E. DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DHMH/OOE
- RE: SPECIFIED LOW- INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES (SLMB)

PROGRAM AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

SUMMARY: The funding allocated for the Qualifying Individual-2 (QI-2), also known as **Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary-III (SLMB-III)** program, in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 was time limited and has not been re-authorized by Congress. However, customers eligible for **SLMB II** have been granted funding that will pay their Medicare Part B premium through **January 31, 2003**. Continued eligibility for **SLMB II** customers will be determined when Congress returns.

The **SLMB III** program ends **December 31, 2002**. Customers eligible for **SLMB III** who receive the \$3.91 Medicaid payment towards their Medicare Part B premium, will not receive payment for any months after **December 31, 2002**. **SLMB III** customers will receive payment for the months they were eligible through December 2002.

ACTION REQUIRED: DHR Central will automatically close approximately 970 SLMB-III (S-15) assistance units in December. In addition, DHMH will notify SLMB III customers by mail of the program ending. (See attachment). Customers certified as QI-1 (SLMB II / S14) must remain open on CARES pending the decision of Congress.

INQUIRIES: Please direct Medicare Buy-In questions to Janet Smith, DHMH Medicare Buy-In Unit, at (410) 767-5376 or Deborah Weathers, FIA at (410) 767-7994.

cc: DHR Executive Staff DHMH Executive Staff DHMH Management Staff FIA Management Staff FIA Trainers Constituent Services