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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 90 LCM-15

Date: January 30, 1990

Division: Family & Children
Services

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: UR Exception Review, January through March, 1990

ATTACHMENTS: None

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that your district will not be required to submit to the Regional Office cases coming due for UR Exception review during the January 1 to March 31, 1990 quarter. This is being done to allow the Department the opportunity to evaluate the current UR Exception policies and procedures. In all other respects, the requirements of Sections 430.9 through 430.12 remain in effect.

Specifically you are not required to submit the following cases:

- o adoption cases which have not been placed within 12 months of freeing;
- o foster care cases, with a permanency planning goal of return home, which exceed the 24-month standards in 430.12.

This also applies to any extension of existing exceptions which may expire after January 1, 1990. The Department will enter a one year approval for all exceptions coming due from January 1 through March 31, 1990. Note that these conditions apply to this period only.

The Department has decided to take a comprehensive look at the UR Exception process, and how it interacts with other methods of oversight and review. We will also examine how it operates at the district, Regional Office and Departmental levels, and whether it is the most effective and efficient method of reinforcing the programmatic standards inherent in the above-cited regulations.

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In order to provide adequate time to complete this review and develop appropriate modifications, it is in our mutual interest to provide this temporary exemption.

Please note this exemption applies to UR Exception cases only. By extension, it also applies to the purchase-of-service agencies providing foster and adoptive care under contract to your district. It does not apply to on-site UR reviews, 153-d sanctions, or other forms of systemic/fiscal review.

While we are not now in a position to present you with specific details about the changes we are considering, we will be seeking your input. The Department will work with the NYPWA to solicit input and suggestions for improving the process.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have questions, please contact your Family and Childrens Services Regional Director.

Joseph Semidei
Deputy Commissioner