TO:       Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT:  1997-98 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

ATTACHMENTS:  Attachment A - Allocations as of 11/12/97
(Available on-line)

Attached for your information, are the following approved schedules for the 1997-98 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP):

- Administration:  this funding is to be used to establish your local HEAP certification network (including your local office for aging) and to implement the 1997-98 program. It should be noted that no "outreach" funding will be available this year.

- Application Component:  this funding is for regular benefits issued to all eligible households that are not part of the automatic payment process. An initial allocation has been set at approximately fifty (50) percent of your estimated application component expenditures. Additional allocations will be made based on actual WMS authorizations.

- Emergency Component:  this funding is for emergency benefits issued to HEAP-eligible households. An initial allocation has been set at approximately fifty (50) percent of your anticipated emergency expenditures. Additional allocations will be based on actual WMS authorizations.

Please note that automatic payment component allocations will be forthcoming in the near future. Mass authorization of benefits to vulnerable public assistance and food stamp recipients will take place on two (2) consecutive weekends in December (December 13th for PA and December 20th for NPA-FS).
Your continued cooperation and patience in administering HEAP are appreciated. Questions regarding HEAP funding may be directed to your Division of Temporary Assistance regional liaison.

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Patricia A. Stevens
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Temporary Assistance