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Special:

Circular Letter

TO: Health Benefits Officers and Assistants of the State, California State University (CSU) and Contracting Agencies

SUBJECT: Medicare Part D (Pharmacy) Member Mailout

The federal government is in the process of implementing its new Medicare Part D (Pharmacy) program which will go into effect on January 1, 2006.

The CalPERS Board has been working to develop appropriate implementation actions to interface the CalPERS health program with this new federal entitlement. CalPERS is sending the attached letter to all CalPERS health members who are potentially eligible for Medicare Part D coverage.

The letter provides CalPERS' assessment to date regarding this program, and is self-explanatory. For additional information regarding the Medicare Part D program, we have included in the letter contact information for federal agencies, as well as contact information for the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP), a California-based health counseling service. Additionally, you may contact the CalPERS Employer Contact Center toll free at (888) 225-7377.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Holly A. Fong, Chief
Office of Employer and Member Health Services

Attachment