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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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RODERICK L. BREMBY
Commissioner

December 30, 2015

Senator Clark J. Chapin, Co-Chair
Representative Brian Becker, Co-Chair
Regulation Review Committee
Room 011, Capitol Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Issuance of Benefits in the State Supplement Program, Tracking No. PR2015-158

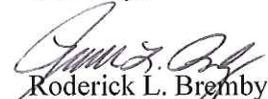
Dear Senator Chapin and Representative Becker:

Pursuant to subsection (b) of section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I am submitting for your approval a proposed regulation that requires recipients of state supplementation to the Supplemental Security Income Program (State Supplement) to receive their benefit payments from the Department of Social Services (DSS) by direct deposit into a personal banking account or an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) account, with certain exceptions. The exceptions in the proposed regulation are adapted from 7 CFR § 208.4, a U.S. Department of Treasury regulation that, as of March 1, 2013, stipulates that payment of all federal benefits shall be by electronic means, with certain limited exceptions. Specifically, the exceptions contained in the proposed regulation allow a State Supplement recipient to continue to receive his or her benefits by paper check if he or she was born before May 1, 1921, or has a mental impairment that prevents him or her from managing a personal account at a financial institution or an EBT account. In addition, the proposed regulation allows DSS to issue benefits by paper check to any recipient who lives in a federal disaster area for a period not to exceed 120 days after the disaster is declared.

A public hearing was not held on this proposed regulation and no written public comments were received by DSS. On December 1, 2015, DSS published on the eRegulations System notice of its decision to take action on the proposed regulation, and on December 22, 2015, the Office of the Attorney General approved the proposed regulation as legally sufficient. Copies of the proposed regulation and all supporting documents have been submitted to the Office of Fiscal Analysis and the Human Services Committee, which has cognizance over the subject matter of the proposed regulation.

If you or your staff require additional information concerning this proposed regulation, please contact Graham Shaffer at (860) 424-5915.

Sincerely,


Roderick L. Bremby
Commissioner

Enclosures

Cc: Brenda Parrella
Phyllis Hyman
Marc Shok
Peter Palermino
Daniel Buckson

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