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MAY-24-1994 14:12 FROM HEAD START

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

TD

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20447

MAR 29 1994

Mr. Rod Carnody
Chairperson
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
1215 Dal Paso Boulevard
Sacramento, California 95815

Dear Mr. Carnody:

This is in response to your letter to Secretary Shalala in which you request that consideration be given to revising the staffing qualifications for Head Start teachers to include the California State requirement for preschool teachers as an approved State equivalent for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential.

You accurately point out that the current Head Start legislation does state that each Head Start classroom in a center-based program must have one teacher with a CDA or a State awarded certificate for preschool teachers that meets or exceeds the requirement for a CDA credential. Although California does not award a certificate as such, Head Start does recognize the California twelve unit program for preschool teachers as being equivalent to the CDA credential. Therefore, Head Start programs in which teachers have completed the California requirements, would be in compliance with the Head Start staffing requirements.

We hope you will continue your efforts to hire staff that reflect the ethnic composition of your community without compromising quality service. You are to be commended for your efforts in this area.

Sincerely,

Olivia A. Golden
Commissioner
Administration on Children, Youth
and Families

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