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DIVISION: Transitional Supports & Policy

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TO: Commissioners, IM Directors, Learnfare Coordinators

|| FROM: Shari Noonan, Director, Office of Transitional Supports and

Policy

SUBJECT: Termination of Learnfare

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 31, 2000

CONTACT PERSON: Tim Ryan, Bureau of Transitional Programs

(518) 474-8905

This is to officially notify you that because the New York State Legislature has not extended statutory authorization, the Learnfare Program will end on July 31, 2000.

In order to shut down the program, the following actions must be taken:

- Effective immediately, no new Learnfare sanctions can be imposed;
- All sanctions currently in force must end on or before July 31, 2000. If household budgets cannot be changed before that day, the dollar amount of any sanction in place prior to July 31, 2000 must be restored to the household as soon as possible; and
- Effective August 1, 2000, local districts can no longer use Learnfare funds to pay for counseling of children and families due to unexcused absences.

Claiming Instructions

To accommodate local district costs related to shut down of the program, expenditures for Learnfare can be claimed through September 15, 2000 and final claims must be filed by October 31, 2000.

An administrative directive with further instructions will be forthcoming.