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FRS  
Legal  
Opinions

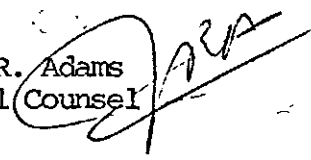
September 2, 1976

SUBJECT: Request for Legal Opinion -  
Family Resource Service Fees

TO: Mr. Vincent D. Pettinelli  
Acting Deputy Secretary for  
Mental Retardation

FROM: (Mrs.) Helga L. Kumar  
Legal Assistant  
Office of Legal Counsel

Through: James R. Adams  
General Counsel



With reference to your memo of August 23, 1976, attaching memo of August 17, 1976, concerning the above-captioned matter, the authority for charging clients is based solely on the provisions contained in §504 of the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Act.

You are, therefor advised that persons who, by virtue of the Department's regulations promulgated pursuant to the aforesaid section, have no liability to pay for services may not legally be charged irrespective of whether such charge is large or small.

Please note that the memorandum from Ms. Pontius of the Western Region specifically points out that over 80% of the clients referred to in her memorandum have no liability.

HLK:npm