

# **NEW REGULATIONS LINK IMMIGRATION TO FAMILY INCOME**

San Jose Mercury News (California)

DECEMBER 19, 1997 Friday MORNING FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1997 San Jose Mercury News All Rights Reserved

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. 18A

**Length:** 105 words

**Byline:** Mercury News Wire Services

## **Body**

---

Beginning today, U.S. residents seeking to bring a foreign relative here permanently will have to prove that their **family income** is at least 25 percent above the federal poverty level.

The **new regulations** implementing a 1996 **immigration** law also make sponsors of **new** immigrants liable for repaying any public benefits the immigrants receive, including food stamps, Medicaid and cash payments. Backers of the **new** provisions say it is only fair that immigrants not become public burdens on their arrival. But critics complain the changes will disqualify thousands of lower-**income** Americans from reuniting with their **families**.

## **Notes**

---

National News in Brief

## **Classification**

---

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Subject:** **IMMIGRATION** (92%); POOR POPULATION (88%); WELFARE BENEFITS (88%); PERSONAL & **FAMILY INCOME** (88%); POVERTY & HOMELESSNESS (88%); FOOD STAMPS (72%); MEDICAID (70%)

**Organization:** MEDICAID (57%)

**Industry:** MEDICAID (70%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** October 21, 2002