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\$308,000

In OEO

Funds Due

1-31-71

Some \$308,000 in federal funds will be made available around Feb. 8 for the Santa Cruz anti-poverty program, H. Rodger Betts, regional director of the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, announced Saturday.

Betts' announcement came after Gov. Ronald Reagan rescinded Thursday his veto of the local anti-poverty program. The veto was based on reports that the program failed to represent the poor and that the local Area Service Center was the site of questionable activities.

The county board of supervisors, acting as the Community Action Agency for the program, has ordered a cleanup that may mean the closing of the service center at Seabright Avenue and Broadway and a shakeup in personnel.

"I am highly pleased," said Betts, "that the Santa Cruz County board of supervisors forthrightly addressed the difficulties in their anti-poverty program. And I am also pleased that the governor has acted to insure that the poor in Santa Cruz County will be able to continue to receive OEO services during the coming year."

"Our office," he added, "stands ready at all times to work with the supervisors and their delegated officials in guaranteeing the effectiveness of their program for the poor."

Supervisors, Community Action Board members and service center representatives are expected to meet in the next few days to talk about the center's future.

Meanwhile, James Heth, chief spokesman for the group called the Santa Cruz Poverty Council, said Friday he expects new elections to be held to give poor persons more representation on the Community Action Board and that his group will petition for representation on that board.