**Section 104.40 Consolidation of Appeals**

a) The Department may consolidate a number of individual appeals for the purpose of conducting a single group hearing if it is determined that all of the appeals involve the same complaint, and the only issue in question is one of:

1) State or Federal law or policy, or changes in State or Federal law or policy by AABD, AFDC, or MANG appellants.

2) State law or policy, or changes in State law or policy by GA or AMI appellants.

b) Each appellant may, at his option, withdraw from the group and present his appeal individually.