



United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service

Midwest Region

Reply to
attn of: MWFS-100:FS 13-1-3 IN FEB 19 1999

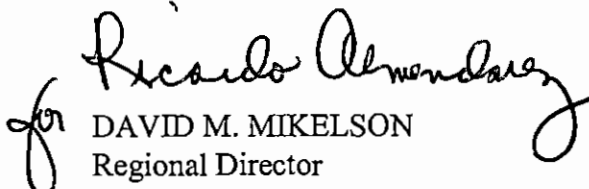
Subject: Indiana Request to Extend Waiver #970155

To: Art Foley, Director
Program Development Division
Food Stamp Program

Attached is a copy of a letter and supporting documentation from the Indiana State agency requesting an extension of its waiver (#970155) of the able-bodied adult without dependent children (ABAWD) work requirement provisions in Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996.

The State is only requesting an extension for 2 cities (East Chicago and Gary) and 3 counties (Orange, Randolph and Vermillion). These areas have been identified by the U.S. Department of Labor as labor surplus areas and have an unemployment rate of at least 6.4%. The State is requesting and we recommend that this waiver be approved for the period of April 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000.

If you have any questions or require any further information regarding this waiver request, please feel free to contact me or have a member of your staff contact Lisa Piotrowski at (312) 353-6558.


for DAVID M. MIKELSON
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program

Attachment



"People
helping people
help
themselves"

guse

Frank O'Bannon, Governor
State of Indiana

Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
402 W. WASHINGTON STREET, P.O. BOX 7083
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46207-7083

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Venita J. Moore, Acting Secretary

February 10, 1999

Mr. David Mikelson, Regional Director
Food Stamp Program, USDA
Midwest Regional Office
77 West Jackson Street, 20th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Mikelson:

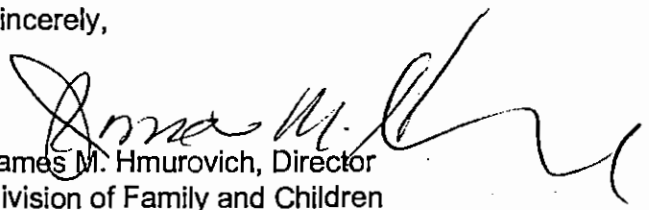
The purpose of this letter is to ask for an extension for Waiver 970155 which exempts certain areas from the Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) time limited eligibility provisions of Public Law 104-193, Section 824. The extension request is based on insufficient jobs available in the following Indiana cities and counties. The cities are East Chicago and Gary in Lake County. The counties are Orange, Randolph and Vermillion. After March 31, 1999, the counties of Fayette and Sullivan will discontinue this waiver as well as the city of Terre Haute in Vigo County.

These cities and counties are identified as "labor surplus areas" by the U.S. Department of Labor. This determination is based upon these areas having an unemployment rate of at least 6.4% for each of the three most recent months and a projected unemployment rate of at least 6.4% for each of the upcoming twelve months.

In requesting an extension of this waiver, Indiana will retain the "Work First" policy by continuing efforts to place individuals in these areas in jobs. Your favorable review and approval of the attached waiver extension, effective April 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000, would be appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me at (317) 232-4705 if there are any questions.

Sincerely,


James M. Hmurovich, Director
Division of Family and Children

JMH/WH/JAD:ml



FEB 16 1999

WAIVER REQUEST – INDIANA

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 970155
2. **Type of Request:** Extension Waiver Request
3. **Regulation Citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA of 1996, P. L. 104-193).
4. **State:** Indiana
5. **Region:** Midwest Region
6. **Regulatory Requirement:**

This section of the statute outlines work requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD). Unless exempt, individuals are ineligible to receive Food Stamps if during the preceding 36 month period the individual received Food Stamps for at least three months (consecutive or otherwise) while the individual did not either: Work at least 20 hours or more per week (averaged monthly); participate in and comply with a Jobs Training & Partnership Act Program, Trade Adjustment Assistance Act Program, or Employment and Training Program (other than a job search or job search training program); or participate in and comply with a Workfare Program (under Section 20 of the Food Stamp Act or a comparable State or local program.)

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the PRWORA, further specified that on the request of a State agency, the Secretary may waive the provision of this section for any group of individuals if the Secretary determines that the area in which the individuals reside has an unemployment rate of more than 10 percent, or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for individuals.

7. **Proposed Alternative Procedure:**

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration is requesting an extension of the current waiver for individuals who reside in the Indiana counties of Orange, Randolph and Vermillion and the cities of East Chicago and Gary. Each of these areas have been determined by the U.S. Department of Labor as a "labor surplus area" by meeting the criteria of have an unemployment rate of at least 6.4% for each of the three most recent months and a projected unemployment rate of at least 6.4% for each of the upcoming twelve months.

There are no counties in Indiana with unemployment rates exceeding 10%, therefore; this request extension is still based on insufficient jobs in these areas.

Indiana requests that this extension period begin on April 1, 1999 and continue through the expiration date of March 31, 2000. Indiana will continue to monitor areas throughout the State that may not have sufficient jobs within the guidelines provided by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) in the letter of December 4, 1996. If other areas are identified, additional waivers may be requested.

8. Impact on Household:

All persons within these areas will be exempt from the ABAWD work requirement. These persons will continue to be required to work register and cooperate with employment and training activities.

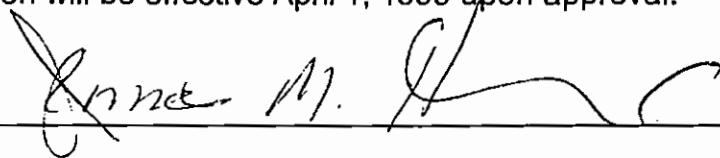
9. Caseload Information:

Our reports indicate that the included areas (3 counties and 2 cities) will have an average of 659 ABAWDS per month that will be exempt due to living in the labor surplus area. This number is 39% of the total ABAWD population in Indiana which currently has a monthly average of 1675 ABAWDS throughout the State.

10. Anticipated Implementation Date:

This waiver extension will be effective April 1, 1999 upon approval.

11. Signature:



12. Date:

2-10-99

JMH/WH/JAD:ml

Welfare Reform Reports

During the period from March 3, 1999, through March 10, 1999, we approved a request from the Indiana State Agency to extend and modify its current waiver of Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act. Under the Act, waivers may be granted for areas with unemployment rates over 10 percent, or for areas with insufficient jobs. The Indiana waiver extension would apply to two cities and three counties based on insufficient jobs.

File: Whitehouse 3-10-99

Author: Michael DePiro at FNSHQ
Date: 3/16/98 11:53 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: Margaret Batko at FNSHQ1
Subject: Re: Indiana ABAWD waiver

----- Message Contents -----

My best guess would be about 6.69% of the NPA HH caseload living in those areas (as per our estimate chart) which could translate to about 845 QC Estimated ABAWDs.

Question for you since I'mn now trying to update waiver renewals:

Any word yet on what California will be doing this year with renewals. Also, which counties in New York intend to implement their options for waivers/renewals?

----- Reply Separator -----

Subject: Indiana ABAWD waiver
Author: Margaret Batko at FNSHQ1
Date: 3/16/98 10:13 AM

Mike, Indiana's ABAWD waiver jsut got extended. Art wants to know about how many ABAWDs are involved for the counties and cities that AREN'T being extended. do you have this info?

Counties: Cass, Crawford, Greene, Orange, and Perry

Cities: Hammond, Marion, Michigan City, and Richmond