



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Consumer
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

1244 Speer Boulevard
Suite 903
Denver, CO 80204-3585

JAN 13 1999

Reply to
Attn. of:

MPFS-300:FS 10-1-1

Subject:

FSP - Request to Extend and Modify Waiver No. 970129 - Missouri

To:

Arthur T. Foley
Director
Program Development Division
Food Stamp Program
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA
Alexandria, Virginia 22302-1594

Attached is a request from the State of Missouri to extend and modify Waiver No. 970129. The request asks that individuals residing in an area that does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment be exempt from the provisions of Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act. The request includes residents residing in 28 counties and one city. The request also asks that the partial county labor surplus area of the city of St. Joseph be expanded to the entire county of Buchanan. The city of St. Joseph labor surplus dominates the Buchanan County labor market to such an extent that a waiver for the entire county is warranted. The request is supported by the U.S. Department of Labor's eligible labor surplus areas. Therefore, we recommend approval of the waiver.

Missouri previously had approval to exempt individuals based on unemployment rates of over 10 percent. Waiver No. 970117 included individuals residing in Wayne County, Douglas County, and Stone County. These counties are now included in the request to extend Waiver No. 970129. Upon approval of the extension of Waiver No. 970129, we will rescind Waiver No. 970117.

If there are any questions concerning this request, Kathie Herrman may be contacted at (303) 844-0347.

Pamela Blatter
for
ALLAN C. NICKELS
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program

Attachment

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MEL CARNAHAN
GOVERNOR

MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 88
JEFFERSON CITY
65103
TELEPHONE: 573-751-3221

RELAY MISSOURI
for hearing and speech impaired
TEXT TELEPHONE
1-800-735-2966
VOICE
1-800-735-2466

December 29, 1998

Allan C. Nickels
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
USDA Food and Nutrition Service
Mountain Plains Region
1244 Speer Boulevard
Denver Colorado, 80204-3585

Dear Mr. Nickels:

Section 6 (0)(2) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), Public Law 104-193, allows the Secretary to grant to the state a waiver of the three-month food stamp eligibility restriction for certain able-bodied adults without dependents age 18 to 50.

Attached, with supporting US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration documentation, is Missouri's request to extend the waiver of the three-month food stamp eligibility restriction for able-bodied adults without dependents age 18 to 50. This waiver extension is being requested for counties designated as labor surplus areas.

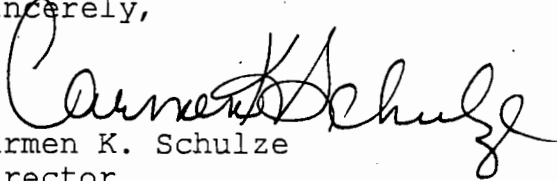
We are again requesting the expansion of a partial county labor surplus area of the city of St. Joseph to the entire county of Buchanan County. The census data shows the city of St. Joseph population as 71,852. The total Buchanan County population is 83,083. The population of the city of St. Joseph represents 86.4% of the total Buchanan County population. The city of St. Joseph labor surplus dominates the Buchanan County Labor Market to such an extent that a waiver for the entire county is warranted.

Allan C. Nickels

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We are not asking for an extension of the waiver for individuals who reside in areas where unemployment rates are over 10 percent (Douglas, Stone and Wayne Counties). These counties are included in the Labor Surplus Areas Waiver

Sincerely,


Carmen K. Schulze
Director

CKS/ns

Attachment

STATE AGENCY: Ms. Mona Prater, Acting Deputy Director
Missouri Division of Family Services
PO Box 88
Jefferson City, Missouri 65103
(573) 751-3124

AREA COVERED BY THE REQUEST:

Bollinger County	New Madrid County
Buchanan County *	Ozark County
Caldwell County	Pemiscot County
Camden County	Ripley County
Carter County	Shannon County
Crawford County	St. Louis City
Douglas County	St. Francois County
Dunklin County	Stoddard County
Hickory County	Stone County
Iron County	Taney County
Laclede County	Texas County
Linn County	Washington County
Madison County	Wayne County
Miller County	Wright County
Mississippi County	

*Request for waiver of Buchanan County is based upon "Expansion of a Partial County Labor Surplus Area," ie: City of St. Joseph.

See attached October 1998, Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment published by the U. S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, United States Employment Service.

CATEGORY UNDER WHICH WAIVER IS BEING REQUESTED:

Request due to lack of sufficient jobs i.e.: Labor Surplus Areas and Expansion of a Partial County Labor Surplus Area (LSA) to the Entire County.

DURATION OF WAIVER: One year, March 1, 1999, through February 29, 2000.

BASIS FOR REQUEST: The U. S. Department of Labor has designated the areas covered by this request (except for Buchanan County) as Labor Surplus Areas in the State of Missouri. By definition of the US Department of Labor, a civil jurisdiction is classified as a labor surplus area when its average unemployment rate was at least twenty percent (20%) above the average unemployment rate for all states (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) during the two previous (2) calendar years. The reference period used by the US Department of Labor was January 1996 through December 1997. Civil jurisdictions with an average unemployment rate of 6.4 percent or higher for this two (2) year period meet the Labor Surplus Area designation. See attached Eligible Labor Surplus Areas for Missouri as designated by the US Department of Labor. This Fiscal Year 1999 listing for Missouri civil jurisdictions designated as Labor Surplus Areas by the US Department of Labor is in effect until September 1999.