



DON SIEGELMAN
Governor

State of Alabama
Department of Human Resources

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Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4000
(334) 242-1310



Tony Petelos
Commissioner

November 29, 1999

Gilbert Camacho, Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 8T36
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Camacho:

Attached please find our request to extend Waiver #970043, to exempt eight Alabama counties from the ABAWD work requirements provision of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, due to their unemployment rates of 10% and above. Please contact Mary Lois Monroe, Food Stamp Program Specialist at (334)242-1747, if you or your staff have any questions.

Sincerely,

Terrie Reid, Interim Director
Family Assistance Division

TR/mlm

Enclosure

12/21/99
passed to Judy Seymour
requesting approval
Chuniao

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver serial number:** 970043
2. **Type of request:** Extension
3. **Primary regulation citation:** Section 6(o)(2) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
4. **Secondary regulation citation:** None
5. **State:** Alabama
6. **Region:** Southeast
7. **Regulatory requirements:** The Food Stamp Act, as amended, provides for a waiver to the work requirements of the above section, for groups of individuals residing in areas that have an unemployment rate of over 10%. The State of Alabama is requesting an extension to our waiver for food stamp recipients residing in the following eight counties: Butler, Crenshaw, Dallas, Greene, Lowndes, Monroe, Washington and Wilcox. In addition, we are requesting a three-month extension of our existing waiver for Choctaw County, which has experienced a slight drop in its unemployment rate. Choctaw County is designated as a labor surplus area for FY 2000 and it is anticipated that this county will be approved for a waiver for the coming year based on this criteria. Approval of this three-month extension will allow time for us to transition Choctaw County from this waiver to Waiver #970225.
8. **Justification for request:** Attachment I provides the monthly unemployment rates for the above listed counties for FY 1999. All eight counties have unemployment rates in excess of 10% when averaged for the entire fiscal year. The information is based on the unemployment rates as determined and reported by the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations for each month.
9. **Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** With the approval of this waiver extension, food stamp recipients residing in the above counties will not be subject to the specified work requirement provisions of the Food Stamp Act, as amended.
10. **Caseload information:** This information is not currently available. Programming changes to the automated system were not completed in time to identify potential ABAWDs in the affected counties

11. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed: If approved, this waiver will continue to exempt food stamp recipients from the ABAWD work requirements in these eight counties. This waiver extension is requested for one year. Additionally, we are requesting a continuance of our current waiver for three months for Choctaw County to expire on March 31, 2000.

12. Proposed quality control review procedures: Households for which the waiver is approved will not be subject to the quality control review procedures related to the specified work requirements

**13. Signature and title
of requesting official:**


Terrie Reid, Interim Director
Family Assistance Division
Alabama Department of Human Resources

14. Date of request: November 29, 1999.

Attachment I

FY 1999 Unemployment Statistics

COUNTY	Oct-98	Nov-98	Dec-98	Jan-99	Feb-99	Mar-99	Apr-99	May-99	Jun-99	Jul-99	Aug-99	Sep-99	AVG
Autauga	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.3	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.3	3.6
Baldwin	3.4	2.8	2.3	3.4	3.3	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.1
Barbour	5.1	4.4	3.3	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.9	5.9	4.5	5.1	5.0	4.5
Bibb	6.4	5.6	4.4	5.7	6.3	5.7	6.6	6.0	7.7	6.0	6.2	5.9	6.0
Blount	3.5	2.7	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.4	3.2	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.7
Bullock	12.8	11.1	8.7	8.1	7.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	10.7	11.0	12.1	11.3	9.5
Butler	11.0	9.4	8.6	9.7	10.3	9.7	9.7	11.1	15.9	16.1	17.6	17.3	12.2
Calhoun	5.0	4.6	3.3	4.3	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.6	5.5	4.4	4.8	5.0	4.6
Chambers	4.0	3.2	3.8	3.1	3.6	3.8	4.7	4.6	5.4	4.7	5.1	4.6	4.2
Cherokee	4.4	5.0	4.0	4.5	4.9	4.3	4.6	4.6	6.0	4.3	5.1	4.9	4.7
Chilton	5.4	4.2	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.5	4.5	3.3	4.1	3.7	3.8
Choctaw	10.5	8.9	8.0	9.3	9.8	9.1	9.9	9.7	11.3	8.2	8.3	8.6	9.3
Clarke	8.7	7.6	6.0	6.7	7.4	7.5	9.4	9.0	10.6	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.1
Clay	3.4	3.1	3.7	4.0	5.1	4.3	4.6	5.0	6.5	7.0	6.7	5.3	4.9
Cleburne	4.0	7.7	3.1	3.7	4.4	3.8	4.3	3.9	6.4	3.8	3.8	3.7	4.4
Coffee	3.7	4.0	3.5	4.0	4.6	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.6	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.1
Colbert	6.5	5.7	5.1	6.0	6.5	5.6	5.6	6.1	8.2	6.5	6.9	7.2	6.3
Conecuh	9.0	8.0	6.0	7.2	6.8	7.5	8.1	8.0	9.9	7.3	9.8	8.0	8.0
Coosa	3.8	4.7	6.0	4.8	4.8	4.4	6.2	5.2	6.7	4.5	5.4	5.4	5.2
Covington	7.5	6.9	6.1	7.6	7.3	6.8	7.1	6.9	9.3	7.4	8.5	8.5	7.5
Crenshaw	8.6	7.5	8.5	10.6	11.6	10.8	10.9	10.4	11.0	9.7	10.8	10.1	10.0
Cullman	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.3	3.6	5.0	4.2	4.0	4.2	3.5
Dale	4.1	3.5	3.1	3.9	4.2	3.9	4.2	4.3	5.5	4.6	4.9	4.9	4.3
Dallas	11.2	9.5	7.8	8.7	8.8	8.3	8.7	9.2	12.0	10.4	12.4	12.4	10.0
DeKalb	4.6	3.7	3.1	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.8	4.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.8
Elmore	2.9	2.7	2.5	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.6	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.0
Escambia	6.6	5.6	4.7	5.5	5.7	5.3	6.3	6.4	7.4	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.0
Etowah	6.8	5.5	4.6	5.6	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.7	7.9	7.1	6.8	6.8	6.5
Fayette	5.9	7.9	5.7	4.2	5.2	8.3	11.3	10.4	12.4	13.6	10.5	10.3	8.8
Franklin	7.6	6.0	5.5	6.1	9.5	5.9	6.5	7.0	7.8	6.0	6.7	6.7	6.8
Geneva	8.8	9.7	8.8	8.5	8.9	8.6	9.0	8.6	8.7	6.9	6.7	6.4	8.3
Greene	12.7	11.7	10.1	11.8	12.8	11.4	11.7	10.6	13.4	11.3	12.4	10.6	11.7
Hale	7.7	6.7	5.2	6.6	7.1	6.4	6.9	7.0	9.0	6.7	7.7	7.0	7.0
Henry	4.9	6.4	3.7	4.6	5.1	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.7	4.7	6.0	5.3	5.2
Houston	3.3	3.3	2.5	3.3	3.6	3.1	3.5	3.7	4.1	3.2	3.8	3.8	3.4
Jackson	5.4	5.3	4.6	6.0	6.3	5.1	5.4	5.7	7.6	5.7	5.8	6.1	5.8
Jefferson	3.4	2.9	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.0	3.8	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.1
Lamar	6.9	6.4	4.8	5.3	7.5	6.5	7.6	8.7	12.0	9.6	11.5	8.8	8.0
Lauderdale	6.2	6.3	4.9	5.1	5.2	4.6	5.1	5.5	7.9	6.1	6.5	6.4	5.8
Lawrence	5.9	5.0	4.2	4.9	5.4	4.6	5.1	5.6	7.9	5.5	5.5	6.0	5.5
Lee	3.3	2.6	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.5	4.1	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.2
Limestone	3.4	3.1	2.6	3.0	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.0	4.1	3.7	3.5	4.0	3.3
Lowndes	9.5	8.7	6.9	9.3	10.4	8.9	9.7	10.9	14.4	13.4	15.0	14.9	11.0
Macon	8.0	7.3	6.4	7.9	7.8	7.2	8.0	8.1	10.0	7.8	8.7	7.9	7.9
Madison	3.1	2.6	2.4	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.6	4.4	2.9	3.0	3.0
Marengo	7.1	6.2	4.5	5.1	5.3	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.8	4.5	5.0	5.1	5.3
Marion	8.3	7.8	5.6	6.5	7.7	7.0	7.4	7.2	11.8	6.7	8.1	7.0	7.6
Marshall	7.1	6.2	5.1	6.6	7.1	6.1	6.8	6.0	6.7	6.0	5.3	5.4	6.2
Mobile	4.5	3.9	3.2	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.5	5.7	4.6	5.2	5.3	4.4
Monroe	10.5	10.1	8.4	12.8	10.1	13.2	13.2	10.7	12.2	10.0	14.7	11.1	11.4
Montgomery	3.5	2.8	2.2	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.1	4.2	3.4	4.0	4.1	3.2
Morgan	4.1	3.5	3.0	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.6	4.9	4.3	4.0	4.3	3.8
Perry	7.7	6.9	5.3	6.5	6.4	5.6	7.0	7.3	12.4	9.4	9.7	12.0	8.0
Pickens	7.1	9.0	8.0	7.6	7.1	7.1	7.7	7.6	15.4	11.7	12.4	11.8	9.4
Pike	5.3	4.4	4.0	4.6	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	5.7	4.9	5.3	4.8	4.8
Randolph	5.1	3.9	3.4	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.7	4.6	6.8	9.9	9.1	6.0	5.5
Russell	3.9	3.3	2.5	3.6	3.9	3.8	4.3	4.1	4.7	4.2	6.2	4.7	4.1
Shelby	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.6
St. Clair	3.3	2.8	2.3	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.9	3.4	4.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3
Sumter	8.8	9.0	7.7	9.0	10.1	9.7	10.7	8.8	12.3	9.7	10.5	9.9	9.7
Talladega	5.3	5.3	4.9	5.9	5.9	5.2	5.8	5.5	6.6	5.5	5.8	6.2	5.7
Tallapoosa	4.0	4.0	4.8	4.5	4.0	3.7	4.1	4.1	5.8	4.3	4.6	5.5	4.5
Tuscaloosa	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.9	3.6	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.7
Walker	6.1	5.3	4.1	4.5	5.8	4.6	5.1	5.4	6.7	6.4	6.1	6.5	5.6
Washington	12.8	10.4	9.8	11.9	12.5	10.7	11.8	11.2	13.6	12.8	12.2	10.6	11.7
Wilcox	12.4	11.6	9.8	11.4	14.2	13.5	14.1	14.4	16.1	13.2	13.5	14.2	13.2
Winston	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.5	6.4	4.7	4.8	5.0	6.4	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.2
State	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.0	4.5	4.7	4.3
National	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3

- 11.45

- 9.95