

TO: Judy Seymour COMPANY: FSP/PDD

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From: Name: Charlotte Duncan
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Company: FSP/PDD
Fax Number: 8,703,3052486
Voice Phone:

Fax Notes:

Judy,

Tennessee is requesting an extension of waiver #97084. The Counties are Clay, Wayne, Fentress, and Lauderdale. We recommend approval.

Charlotte Duncan
SERO

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STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
400 DEADERICK STREET
CITIZENS PLAZA BUILDING
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 372248-7200

November 23, 1999

Gilbert Camacho, Regional Director
Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Services
United States Department of Agriculture
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 8T36
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Camacho:

Attached you will find a request for an extension and modification of waivers 970084 and 970085. These waivers are requesting 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, be waived. These waivers exempt individuals residing in certain areas due to Labor Surplus and/or unemployment rate being over 10 percent from the ABAWD work requirement.

Your expeditious processing of this request is appreciated.

If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (615) 313-5652.

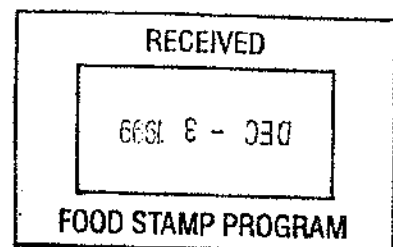
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ricki O. Rippey".

Ricki O. Rippey, Director
Food Stamp Policy

ROR:SR

Attachments



WAIVER REQUEST

1. WAIVER SERIAL NUMBER: 970084
2. TYPE OF REQUEST: Extension and Modification
3. PRIMARY 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. SECONDARY REGULATION CITATION: N/A
5. STATE: Tennessee
6. REGION: Southeast
7. REGULATORY REQUIREMENT: Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, by Section 824 of the PRWORA, provides that no individual shall be eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36 month period, the individual received food stamp benefits for not less than 5 months (consecutive or otherwise), during which the individual did not work 20 hours or more per week, average monthly; did not participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State; or received benefits because they were exempt from these requirements.

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of this PRWORA, also provides that, upon the request of a State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the above provision for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent, or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.

8. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES: Under the current waiver Tennessee is approved until January 31, 2000, to exempt individuals residing in 4 counties from the requirements of Section 6(o) of the PRWORA. Exemption is based on these areas having an unemployment rate above 10 percent. The 4 counties are: Clay, Hardeman, Lewis, and Wayne. Information provided by the Tennessee Department of Employment Security for 10/98 through 9/99, counties having an unemployment rate above 10 percent for this period are Clay, Fentress, ~~Lauderdale~~ and Wayne.

Lawrence

*Lawrence
not Lauderdale*

*fentress is
~~Hardeman~~ is*

*Lawrence is
not Lauderdale*

Tennessee is requesting a waiver extension based upon a 10% or higher unemployment rate for the counties of Clay and Wayne. A waiver modification is needed to remove Hardeman and Lewis and to add Fentress and Lauderdale.

9. JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST: As stated in number 8 above, the four counties have an unemployment rate above 10 percent. This is verified by the Tennessee Department of Employment Security figures for the period from October, 1998 through September, 1999 (See the attached chart). Due to the high unemployment rate, the above counties are unable to provide sufficient number of job opportunities on an area basis. Employment prospects for these individuals are greatly diminished and usually the individuals have little work history.
10. ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON HOUSEHOLDS AND STATE AGENCY: The household with able-bodied adults without dependents will benefit through continued eligibility if otherwise eligible. These able-bodied individuals will be able to continue to receive benefits longer than the five months and a longer period of time to obtain either employment or training as the Case Manager will have longer to assist them in achieving this goal. The individuals will not have what, in many instances, is their only source of assistance terminated.
11. CASELOAD INFORMATION: This waiver will affect four counties out of ninety-five. In each county the percentage of the Food Stamp population will be minimal. Quality Control will not be affected, as QC will exempt these counties from the able-bodied requirement.
12. TIME PERIOD: Tennessee is requesting the waiver of the able-bodied requirement for four counties based upon the unemployment rate being over 10 percent. We are requesting the waiver to be for one year. At that time, all counties will be re-evaluated to determine their eligibility based upon the unemployment rate.
13. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF REQUESTING OFFICIAL:



Ricki O. Rippey, Director
Food Stamp Policy
Tennessee Department of Human Services

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

County Name	10/98	11/98	12/98	1/99	2/99	3/99	4/99	5/99	6/99	7/99	8/99	9/99	AVG.
Anderson	3.0	2.8	2.7	3.8	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.0	3.02
Bedford	5.4	4.8	4.2	5.1	4.7	4.2	3.6	4.8	5.8	5.6	4.9	4.3	4.78
Benton	7.5	7.5	7.9	11.0	10.1	9.2	7.1	7.0	6.7	5.8	7.7	6.4	7.83
Bledsoe	3.3	3.3	3.0	4.7	4.4	3.2	7.5	1.9	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.13
Blount	2.9	2.9	2.9	4.6	4.7	4.4	3.6	2.9	2.9	4.3	3.1	2.8	3.50
Bradley	3.2	2.8	2.5	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.0	3.37
Campbell	6.0	6.8	5.6	8.2	8.8	6.8	5.6	4.6	6.4	7.6	7.2	6.6	6.68
Cannon	5.1	4.6	3.9	5.2	4.9	4.5	4.3	3.8	4.2	4.7	4.1	3.6	4.41
Carroll	8.7	8.8	9.0	11.1	10.3	10.4	8.8	7.7	7.6	8.3	7.7	7.2	8.80
Carter	3.9	4.1	3.5	6.5	6.1	6.1	5.0	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.69
Cheatham	2.3	2.1	2.0	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.17
Chester	4.2	4.2	3.9	4.2	3.7	3.3	3.9	4.1	3.9	2.8	3.5	3.2	3.74
Claborn	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.9	5.6	4.2	4.6	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.2	3.7	4.27
Clay	10.8	12.4	10.5	14.4	14.1	13.7	11.6	10.1	10.8	15.2	9.5	8.3	11.78
Cocke	4.6	6.1	6.6	12.6	11.9	10.7	6.4	4.8	4.5	3.8	4.1	3.5	6.63
Coffee	4.6	4.4	3.9	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.4	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.2	4.26
Crockett	4.5	4.6	5.5	8.2	7.5	6.5	5.6	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.8	3.7	5.28
Cumberland	4.9	5.3	5.1	7.4	6.8	5.9	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.4	3.0	4.86
Davidson	2.6	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.53
Dekalb	4.7	4.8	4.2	6.0	6.0	5.8	6.3	5.6	5.7	6.2	6.1	4.8	5.52
Decatur	7.8	7.4	7.2	9.3	8.1	8.0	6.7	5.3	5.9	6.9	7.2	5.5	7.11
Dickson	3.1	2.7	3.0	4.7	4.5	3.8	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.4	3.08
Dyer	3.9	4.2	4.2	6.1	5.8	5.2	4.7	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.2	3.9	4.47
Fayette	3.5	3.3	2.9	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.33
Fentress	8.6	9.5	8.3	12.4	12.3	13.1	11.5	10.3	10.4	8.6	8.5	8.5	10.17
Franklin	4.5	4.0	3.5	5.5	4.6	4.4	4.3	3.4	4.0	4.9	4.5	3.5	4.26
Gibson	5.8	6.1	6.3	7.6	7.8	7.4	6.6	5.2	4.7	5.6	6.4	4.3	6.15
Giles	3.8	3.8	3.1	4.5	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.4	3.68
Grainger	5.1	5.0	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.7	3.7	3.4	3.5	5.0	3.9	3.6	4.33
Greene	4.0	5.7	8.2	10.1	9.5	8.6	6.6	4.7	4.2	4.0	3.3	4.5	6.12
Grundy	5.2	5.0	4.7	6.0	6.1	5.7	4.6	4.8	6.1	5.7	5.1	4.6	5.30
Hamblen	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.5	4.2	4.2	4.2	3.5	3.5	5.2	4.1	3.3	4.03
Hamilton	3.1	3.0	2.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.0	3.3	2.9	3.2	2.8	3.13
Hancock	5.3	5.4	5.2	6.8	7.4	6.8	6.1	5.5	5.8	6.0	5.4	5.1	5.90
Hardeman	11.2	10.2	9.7	12.1	10.9	10.0	9.6	7.9	7.3	6.6	10.0	8.6	9.51

County Name	10/98	11/98	12/98	1/99	2/99	3/99	4/99	5/99	6/99	7/99	8/99	9/99	AVG.
Hardin	6.3	6.3	6.2	9.0	7.8	7.1	6.1	5.8	5.4	6.3	6.1	5.5	6.49
Hawkins	4.3	3.6	3.3	6.0	6.0	6.6	6.0	5.1	4.7	5.8	3.9	3.8	4.93
Hawood	9.6	9.0	8.4	10.7	10.4	9.6	8.6	7.0	7.2	12.2	10.0	6.5	9.10
Henderson	6.5	6.6	6.4	9.2	7.9	8.0	7.1	5.8	5.5	4.7	4.9	4.1	6.39
Henry	6.0	5.7	5.9	8.2	8.4	7.6	6.6	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.8	6.11
Hickman	9.0	8.9	8.1	9.7	8.6	7.8	6.6	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.3	3.8	6.79
Houston	6.9	6.7	8.8	12.9	12.3	11.7	9.9	8.4	8.0	7.4	8.6	6.8	9.03
Humphreys	6.4	6.6	7.8	9.8	9.0	8.4	7.0	6.2	6.5	6.1	6.7	5.4	7.16
Jackson	9.9	9.7	8.9	10.4	10.3	10.3	7.1	5.5	6.8	10.4	8.0	6.5	8.65
Jefferson	3.6	3.8	4.0	7.2	6.9	6.6	4.7	3.9	3.4	3.0	3.1	2.6	4.40
Johnson	5.0	5.1	12.8	18.2	17.0	7.9	5.5	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.7	12.1	8.48
Knox	3.4	3.3	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.68
Lake	9.9	9.4	8.9	10.5	10.2	8.0	5.8	4.6	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.6	6.91
Lauderdale	6.8	6.5	6.6	9.0	8.6	7.9	6.9	5.8	5.6	10.8	8.2	7.2	7.49
Lawrence	7.7	11.2	9.6	13.7	8.7	7.5	6.5	10.0	13.9	15.9	13.0	7.8	10.46
Lewis	10.5	10.3	10.1	13.7	11.4	12.3	9.7	8.5	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.6	9.82
Lincoln	4.6	4.6	4.3	5.7	5.5	4.3	3.9	3.3	3.4	4.6	3.9	2.8	4.24
Loudon	2.9	2.8	2.6	3.8	3.5	3.1	2.5	2.4	2.8	2.9	3.2	2.4	2.91
Macon	5.8	5.7	4.7	6.0	6.1	5.6	4.6	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.4	3.4	4.74
Madison	3.1	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.1	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.6	3.24
Marion	4.6	3.8	3.8	6.3	5.5	4.7	3.8	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.9	4.4	4.58
Marshall	3.9	4.5	4.3	5.0	4.5	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.5	4.4	2.7	2.5	3.57
Maury	3.1	3.1	2.8	4.2	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.7	2.9	4.2	3.8	2.5	3.33
McMinn	5.5	5.4	5.1	6.5	6.8	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.0	7.5	4.5	4.1	5.56
McNairy	5.3	4.8	4.8	6.6	5.9	5.9	5.3	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.5	2.9	4.69
Meigs	10.5	8.5	7.5	11.2	10.3	9.6	8.5	7.7	6.2	7.8	6.6	5.5	8.33
Monroe	4.9	4.8	4.3	6.2	6.2	5.6	5.0	4.7	4.9	5.8	4.7	4.1	5.10
Montgomery	3.6	3.0	2.6	3.5	3.3	3.2	2.6	2.2	2.8	2.7	3.1	3.3	2.99
Moore	3.6	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.0	2.3	2.3	3.5	1.3	1.3	2.37
Morgan	6.9	6.5	5.7	8.0	7.6	7.2	6.2	6.1	7.1	8.4	7.6	6.4	6.98
Obion	5.3	5.3	5.3	7.7	6.7	6.3	6.4	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.4	4.5	5.70
Overton	5.0	4.8	5.0	8.0	8.9	8.4	5.6	4.6	4.1	5.1	4.0	3.3	5.57
Perry	4.9	4.6	4.9	8.4	8.5	8.2	6.8	6.5	5.7	6.7	6.3	7.4	6.58
Pickett	4.0	6.0	6.5	9.6	8.9	7.9	7.0	4.9	4.5	6.2	2.7	3.1	5.94
Polk	5.4	5.0	4.8	6.6	7.3	5.6	6.3	3.3	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.98
Putnam	2.8	3.2	3.1	4.3	6.4	6.7	4.5	3.7	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.2	4.03
Rhea	6.4	6.0	5.7	7.5	7.1	5.8	5.1	5.3	5.6	6.3	5.1	4.3	5.85

County Name	10/98	11/98	12/98	1/99	2/99	3/99	4/99	5/99	6/99	7/99	8/99	9/99	AVG.
Roane	4.4	4.2	3.9	5.2	4.7	4.4	4.1	3.7	4.1	4.1	4.3	3.9	4.26
Robertson	4.4	3.9	3.2	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.8	2.9	2.7	2.5	3.2	3.0	3.44
Rutherford	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.6	3.1	2.7	2.48
Scott	5.5	5.5	5.6	7.2	7.8	7.4	7.3	6.3	7.7	14.7	7.4	6.5	7.41
Sequatchie	5.1	5.7	4.8	5.5	4.7	4.3	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.2	4.20
Sevier	3.5	4.9	5.5	15.6	15.0	13.7	6.6	3.9	2.7	2.2	2.5	2.4	6.54
Shelby	3.3	3.2	2.8	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.2	3.6	3.2	3.32
Smith	2.8	3.0	3.0	5.0	4.8	4.2	3.4	2.8	2.9	5.8	2.6	2.4	3.56
Stewart	14.1	6.9	8.5	12.2	12.1	11.0	8.5	7.2	7.3	7.0	7.6	6.5	9.08
Sullivan	4.0	3.4	3.6	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.1	3.1	3.97
Sumner	3.7	3.5	2.6	3.3	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.76
Tipton	3.6	3.8	3.4	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.6	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.6	3.33
Trousdale	9.5	6.6	6.3	7.4	6.8	6.3	5.6	4.4	5.3	5.6	4.1	4.6	6.04
Unicoi	4.0	4.1	4.4	7.7	7.9	7.3	6.3	4.4	4.7	4.0	4.5	3.9	5.27
Union	5.6	5.2	4.8	4.2	5.0	4.6	4.0	3.5	3.3	3.4	2.7	2.7	4.08
Van Duren	3.4	5.7	6.2	8.4	9.9	7.9	6.3	4.6	5.8	4.2	4.2	4.6	5.93
Warren	4.6	4.1	3.6	5.4	5.3	5.3	4.3	4.0	5.4	4.9	4.1	3.5	4.54
Washington	2.7	2.9	2.5	4.3	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.38
Wayne	14.2	14.7	12.7	16.1	12.7	10.9	9.8	9.9	12.7	13.8	13.1	10.0	12.55
Weakley	5.6	5.9	5.0	7.1	6.8	6.6	5.8	4.8	4.9	7.5	6.8	4.5	5.94
White	4.1	4.4	4.2	5.5	6.2	5.9	4.8	4.0	4.1	4.4	3.6	3.1	4.53
Williamson	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.83
Wilson	2.9	2.6	2.4	3.7	3.4	3.3	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.73
STATE	3.8	3.7	3.5	4.8	4.6	4.4	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.2	3.85