

OPTIONAL FORM 58 (7-90)	
FAX TRANSMITTAL	
# of pages 4	
To ART FOLEY	From TINA KOPEC
Dept./Agency FNS-FSP-PDD	Phone # 312-353-0578
Fax # 703-305-2486	Fax #
NSN 7540-01-917-7368	5099-101
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	

MWFS-100:FS 13-1-3 MN

NOV 08 2000

Minnesota's Request for Extension of ABAWD Waiver Minus Five Counties

Art Foley, Director
Program Development Division
Food Stamp Program

Attached is Minnesota's request for an extension of waiver #980014 of Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA). This request is for extending the waiver for individuals residing in the following ten counties only: Aitkin, Clearwater, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Mahnomon, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Pine, and Red Lake. At this time all these counties meet the designation of Labor Surplus Areas (LSAs). This request would remove Becker, Cass, Morrison, Norman, and Todd Counties from the waiver as they no longer meet the exemption requirements. The State's request refers to the US Department of Labor statistics on LSAs which support Minnesota's request for these ten counties (see attached outline).

The current waiver #980014 is approved through November 30, 2000. The State agency is requesting an extension of this waiver for the ten counties designated as LSAs be approved through November 30, 2001. The State agency assured us that the five counties which no longer meet the waiver exemption requirements will begin implementing the PRWORA time-limited eligibility and work provisions effective December 1, 2000.

We recommend that this waiver be approved for the period requested since the counties meet FNS exemption requirements as LSAs. 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 Tina Kopec at (312) 353-0578.

Lisa M. Piotrowski
OLLICE C. HOLDEN
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program

Attachment

USDA:FNS:MWRO:FSP:EMS: KOPEC: MN ABAWDS NOV EXTN1100.doc 11/01/00



Minnesota Department of Human Services

October 30, 1999

Ollice C. Holden
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
77 West Jackson Blvd., 20th Floor
Chicago, IL 60604-3511

Dear Mr. Holden:

This letter seeks an extension and modification of Minnesota's current waiver exempting individuals from Section 6 (a) of the Food Stamp Act as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996.

In December 1999, Minnesota received approval of waiver #980014 which exempts residents of the following 15 counties from able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) provisions: Aitkin, Becker, Cass, Clearwater, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Mahnomon, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Norman, Pine, Red Lake, and Todd counties. Approval was based on designation of these counties by the Department of Labor as Labor Surplus Areas (LSAs). This waiver expires on November 30, 2000.

We seek a one-year extension of waiver #980014 so that it remains in effect for the period December 1, 2000, through November 30, 2001.

In addition, we seek to modify the list of counties covered by this waiver. The Department of Labor indicates that for the period October 1, 2000, through September 30, 2001, only 10 counties will be designated as LSAs. Those counties are: Aitkin, Clearwater, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Mahnomon, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Pine, and Red Lake.

COUNTY WAIVER REQUEST - MINNESOTA

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 980014

2. **Type of Waiver Request:** Extension and modification of current waiver

3. **Regulation Citation:** Section 6 (o) of the Food Stamp Act as amended by Section 824 of PRWORA of 1996 104-193

4. **State:** Minnesota

5. **Region:** Midwest

6. **Regulatory Requirements:** The Food Stamp Act introduces time-limited eligibility and work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). Unless exempt, ABAWDs are ineligible to receive Food Stamps if, during the preceding 36 month period the individual received Food Stamps for at least three months and during those months the individual did not: 1) work at least 20 hours or more per week (averaged monthly); or 2) participate in and comply with a Job Training & Partnership Act program, Trade Adjustment Assistance Act program, or an Employment and Training program (other than job search or job search training program); or 3) 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 PROWRA, specifies that, at the request of a state agency, the Secretary may waive the provisions 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 that the area does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment.

7. **Summary of Waiver Request:** Minnesota requests a one-year extension of waiver # 980014 so that it is effective from December 1, 2000, through November 30, 2001. We also request modification of the waiver so that it applies only to the following 10 counties: Aitkin; Clearwater; Itasca; Kanabec; Koochiching; Mahnomon; Marshall; Mille Lacs; Pine; and Red Lake. All 10 of these counties have been designated by the U.S. Department of Labor as Labor Surplus Areas. This modification will permit the waiver to expire on November 30, 2000, for counties that are no longer considered Labor Surplus Areas (Becker, Cass, Morrison, Norman, and Todd counties).

Mr. Office C. Holden

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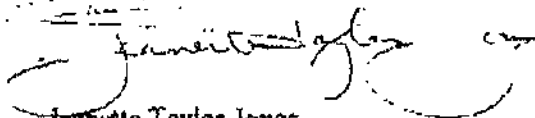
October 30, 2000

As a result, we request that waiver #980014 be modified so that it expires on November 30, 2000, for the following five counties: Becker, Cass, Morrison, Norman, and Todd.

Upon approval of our request, the Department of Human Services will notify Becker, Cass, Morrison, Norman, and Todd counties that they are no longer covered under the waiver and that, beginning December 1, 2000, all non-exempt individuals residing in those counties will be subject to ABAWD time-limited eligibility and work provisions.

If you have any questions about this request please contact Michael Sirovy at (612) 296-5482.

Sincerely,



Jeanette Taylor Jones

Assistant Commissioner

Economic and Community Support Strategies