



Joe Pat
9/24/12

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

FEB 11 2002

Mr. Joseph Weingart
Regional Director, Food Stamp Program
USDA Mid-Atlantic Region
Mercer Corporate Park
300 Corporate Boulevard
Robbinsville, NJ 08691-1598

Dear Mr. Weingart:

I am writing to request an addendum to Waiver 970283. This waiver allows residents in certain Virginia localities to be exempt from the time-limited benefits required with the work requirement for the able-bodied population. We request the addendum to be effective March 1, 2002, for the newly identified labor surplus areas.

Please find the revised waiver request and information from the December 31, 2001, edition of the Federal Register to support the waiver request. Please contact Pat Duva, Food Stamp Program Manager at (804) 692-1712, if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Jean Sheil
Jean Sheil
Deputy Commissioner
Program Operations

Enclosure

Waiver Request

1. **Waiver serial number:** 970283
2. **Type of request:** Addendum
3. **Primary regulation citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA) of 1996, P. L. 104-193.
4. **Secondary regulation citation:**
5. **State:** Virginia
6. **Region:** Mid-Atlantic
7. **Regulatory requirements:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by PRWORA, provides that a household member may not receive food stamp benefits beyond three months within a 36-month period unless the member is employed or participating in work programs or workfare. There are exceptions allowed by the Act to the time-limited benefits.

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act also provides that the Secretary may waive the work requirement for any areas with unemployment rates of 10 percent or higher or areas with a surplus of available laborers, if such a request is made by a state agency.

Regulations at 273.24(f) codify the authority for states to request waivers from the work requirement and for the Food and Nutrition Service to grant waivers.

8. **Proposed alternative procedures:** The Virginia State Agency requests an addendum of the original waiver for food stamp recipients who reside in Labor Surplus Areas for individuals subject to Section 824 of PRWORA.

This waiver would allow an exemption from the requirement for individuals who reside in areas that the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration designated as Labor Surplus Areas.

The current waiver exempts residents in the counties of Accomack, Buchanan, Carroll, Dickenson, Giles, Halifax, Lee, Russell, Surry, Tazewell, Wise, and the cities of Danville and Norton. LSAS

On December 31, 2001, the Employment and Training Administration published a revised list of labor surplus areas for each state for the period October 1, 2001, to September 30, 2002. Because of the employment prospects in some parts of our state, we would like to amend the existing waiver to include localities that are

included on the current list of labor surplus areas. The new listing includes Henry and Grayson Counties. The City of Martinsville was on the previous list and remains on the revised list of designated areas. The Henry-Martinsville social services agency was not included in the current waiver because the entire area served did not have the labor surplus designation.

9. **Implementation date:** We are asking that this waiver addendum be effective March 1, 2002, through October 31, 2002, when the current waiver will expire.
10. **Quality control procedures:** There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.
11. **Signature and title of requesting official:** 
Jean Sheil
Deputy Commissioner
Program Operations
12. **Date of request:** FEB 11 2002

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS—Continued
[October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002]

Eligible labor surplus	Civil jurisdictions included
Henry County	Henry County.
Houston County	Houston County.
Humphreys County	Humphreys County.
Jackson County	Jackson County.
Johnson County	Johnson County.
Lauderdale County	Lauderdale County.
Lawrence County	Lawrence County.
Lewis County	Lewis County.
Meigs County	Meigs County.
Morgan County	Morgan County.
Perry County	Perry County.
Scott County	Scott County.
Sevier County	Sevier County.
Stewart County	Stewart County.
Unicoi County	Unicoi County.
Wayne County	Wayne County.

Texas

Andrews County	Andrews County.
Beaumont City	Beaumont City in Jefferson County.
Balance of Brazoria County.	Brazoria County less Lake Jackson City, Pearland City.
Brooks County	Brooks County.
Brownsville City	Brownsville City in Cameron County.
Balance of Cameron County.	Cameron County less Brownsville City, Harlingen City.
Camp County	Camp County.
Cass County	Cass County.
Cochran County	Cochran County.
Corpus Christi City	Corpus Christi City in Nueces County.
Crane County	Crane County.
Crockett County	Crockett County.
Culverston County	Culverston County.
Del Rio City	Del Rio City in Valverde County.
Dimmit County	Dimmit County.
Duval County	Duval County.
Eagle Pass City	Eagle Pass City in Maverick County.
Balance of Ector County.	Ector County less Odessa City.
Edinburg City	Edinburg City in Hidalgo County.
El Paso City	El Paso City in El Paso County.
Balance of El Paso County.	El Paso County less El Paso City, Socorro City.
Floyd County	Floyd County.
Frio County	Frio County.
Galveston City	Galveston City in Galveston County.
Balance of Galveston County.	Galveston County less Friendswood City, Galveston City, League City, Texas City.
Gray County	Gray County.
Balance of Gregg County.	Gregg County less Longview City.
Grimes County	Grimes County.
Hardin County	Hardin County.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS—Continued
[October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002]

Eligible labor surplus	Civil jurisdictions included
Harlingen City	Harlingen City in Cameron County.
Balance of Harrison County.	Harrison County less Longview City.
Balance of Hidalgo County.	Hidalgo County less Edinburg City, McAllen City, Mission City, Pharr City, Weslaco City.
Hutchinson County	Hutchinson County.
Jasper County	Jasper County.
Jim Hogg County	Jim Hogg County.
Jim Wells County	Jim Wells County.
Kingsville City	Kingsville City in Kleberg County.
Kinney County	Kinney County.
LaSalle County	LaSalle County.
Lamb County	Lamb County.
Laredo City	Laredo City in Webb County.
Liberty County	Liberty County.
Longview City	Longview City in Gregg County, Harrison County.
Loving County	Loving County.
Marion County	Marion County.
Matagorda County	Matagorda County.
Balance of Maverick County.	Maverick County less Eagle Pass City.
McAllen City	McAllen City in Hidalgo County.
Balance of Midland County.	Midland County less Midland City.
Mission City	Mission City in Hidalgo County.
Morris County	Morris County.
Newton County	Newton County.
Balance of Nueces County.	Nueces County less Corpus Christi City.
Odessa City	Odessa City in Ector County.
Orange County	Orange County.
Panola County	Panola County.
Paris City	Paris City in Lamar County.
Pecos County	Pecos County.
Pharr City	Pharr City in Hidalgo County.
Port Arthur City	Port Arthur City in Jefferson County.
Presidio County	Presidio County.
Reagan County	Reagan County.
Reeves County	Reeves County.
Sabine County	Sabine County.
San Patricio County	San Patricio County.
Scurry County	Scurry County.
Shelby County	Shelby County.
Socorro City	Socorro City in El Paso County.
Somervell County	Somervell County.
Starr County	Starr County.
Terry County	Terry County.
Texarkana City Tex	Texarkana City Tex in Bowie County.
Texas City	Texas City in Galveston County.
Tyler County	Tyler County.
Upton County	Upton County.
Uvalde County	Uvalde County.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS—Continued
[October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002]

Eligible labor surplus	Civil jurisdictions included
Balance of Val Verde County.	Val Verde County less Del Rio City.
Ward County	Ward County.
Balance of Webb County.	Webb County less Laredo City.
Weslaco City	Weslaco City in Hidalgo County.
Willacy County	Willacy County.
Winkler County	Winkler County.
Yoakum County	Yoakum County.
Zapata County	Zapata County.
Zavala County	Zavala County.

Utah

Carbon County	Carbon County.
Duchesne County	Duchesne County.
Emery County	Emery County.
Garfield County	Garfield County.
Grand County	Grand County.
Ogden City	Ogden City in Weber County.
San Juan County	San Juan County.

Vermont

Orleans County	Orleans County.
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Virginia

Buchanan County	Buchanan County.
Carroll County	Carroll County.
Covington City	Covington City.
Dickenson County	Dickenson County.
Grayson County	Grayson County.
Halifax County	Halifax County.
Henry County	Henry County.
Lancaster County	Lancaster County.
Lee County	Lee County.
Martinsville City	Martinsville City.
Northumberland County.	Northumberland County.
Norton City	Norton City.
Russell County	Russell County.
Surry County	Surry County.
Tazewell County	Tazewell County.
Wise County	Wise County.

Washington

Adams County	Adams County.
Bremerton City	Bremerton City in Kitsap County.
Chelan County	Chelan County.
Clallam County	Clallam County.
Columbia County	Columbia County.
Balance of Cowlitz County.	Cowlitz County less Longview City.
Douglas County	Douglas County.
Everett City	Everett City in Snohomish County.
Ferry County	Ferry County.
Grant County	Grant County.
Grays Harbor County	Grays Harbor County.
Kennewick City	Kennewick City in Benton County.
Klickitat County	Klickitat County.
Lakewood City	Lakewood City in Pierce County.