

January 22, 2008

Ms. Jody Cornwell
United States Department of Agriculture
Food Stamp Program
1244 Speer Blvd., Suite 903
Denver, CO 80204-3585

Dear Ms Cornwell:

Please find enclosed a request from the State of Kansas to exempt residents of certain counties in Kansas from the ABAWD provisions of Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity and Reconciliation Act (PRWORA). The basis of our waiver request is that the areas specified in the request do not have sufficient jobs to provide employment for all individuals.

This is the fifth time the State of Kansas has requested waivers for our ABAWD population and we are looking forward to providing extended food stamp benefits to the ABAWD population in the affected counties who cannot find adequate employment.

We are requesting approval to implement waivers effective May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2009. Based on our analysis, 27 counties and 1 city qualify for waivers from the time-limit for 18 to 49 year olds. These areas can be waived because they had unemployment rates greater than 20% above the national average during August 2005 through July 2007.

Enclosed to support this request are the following documents:

*an Excel file with a summary sheet that lists the areas that qualify for waivers (see "Aug05-Jul07");

*an HTML file of local area unemployment statistics data for requested areas downloaded from the Bureau of Labor Statistics website (www.bls.gov/lau);

*an HTML file of national unemployment statistics data downloaded from the Bureau of Labor Statistics website (www.bls.gov/cps/home.htm);

We appreciate your support in our efforts to administer the Food Stamp Program. If you have any questions about this request, or require additional information, please contact Pam Jacob at 785-296-5416 or email at pam.jacob@srs.ks.gov.

Sincerely,



Don Jordan
Secretary