



MATT BLUNT
GOVERNOR

MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION
P.O. 2320
JEFFERSON CITY
65102-2320
TELEPHONE: 573-751-3178

RELAY MISSOURI
for hearing and speech impaired
TEXT TELEPHONE
1-800-735-2966
VOICE
1-800-735-2466

December 18, 2007

Jody Cornwell
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Mountain Plains Region
USDA – Food and Nutrition Service
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 903
Denver, Colorado 80204 – 3585

Dear Ms. Cornwell:

Attached, with supporting Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data, is Missouri's request to extend and amend waiver 970129. Missouri's waiver amendment is requested for counties and sub-regions determined to have an insufficient number of jobs to provide employment. According to current regulations, an area is considered to have an insufficient number of jobs if the unemployment rate is in excess of 20% of the national average for the same period of time. Our request is that these counties be waived from April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2010.

In order to determine areas included in this waiver request, Missouri and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reviewed the Labor Surplus Areas listings provided in the Federal Register and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. The time period of the review was the months of March 2005 through February 2007.

A map showing proposed waived and existing waived counties is also attached for further clarification.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Morris at 573-751-3178 or Rachel.E.Morris@dss.mo.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janel R. Luck".
Janel R. Luck
Director

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver serial number:**
970129
2. **Type of request:**
Modification and Extension
3. **Primary regulation citation, if any:**
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, if any:**
7 CFR 273.24 (f)(3)(iii)
5. **State:**
Missouri
6. **Region:**
Mountain Plains
7. **Regulatory requirements:**
Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), P.L. 104-193, 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 3 months (consecutive or otherwise), during which the individual did not work 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; did not participate in and comply with the requirement of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; or did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of 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 resides has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent, or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.
8. **Proposed procedures:**
The State of Missouri requests to waive individuals residing in six sub-regions within the state. The State seeks waivers for contiguous counties that are eligible based on aggregate average unemployment rates of at least 20

percent above the national average during March 2005 through February 2007, when the national average unemployment rate plus 20 percent was 5.7.

AREA	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAR 2005 – FEB 2007
Bates County	5.8
Benton County	5.9
Caldwell County	5.4
Cass County	4.7
Henry County	5.7
Hickory County	7.3
Jackson County	5.8
Lafayette County	4.9
Ray County	5.1
St. Clair County	5.9
TOTAL	5.7

Ten counties: Bates County, Benton County, Caldwell County, Cass County, Henry County, Hickory County, Jackson County, Lafayette County, Ray County, and St. Clair County qualify based on having average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent above the national average during March 2005 – February 2007.

Miller County	5.4
Morgan County	6.6
TOTAL	5.9

Two counties: Miller County and Morgan County qualify based on having average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent above the national average during March 2005 – February 2007.

Dunklin County	7.4
Mississippi County	6.9
New Madrid County	6.8
Pemiscot County	7.1
TOTAL	7.1

Four counties: Dunklin County, Mississippi County, New Madrid County and Pemiscot County qualify based on having average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent above the national average during March 2005 – February 2007.

Stone County	7.1
Taney County	7.6
TOTAL	7.4

Two counties: Stone County and Taney County qualify based on having average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent above the national average during March 2005 – February 2007.

Bollinger County	5.6
Carter County	6.1
Crawford County	6.0
Dent County	6.2
Gasconade County	5.5
Iron County	6.2
Laclede County	5.1
Madison County	5.9
Reynolds County	7.3
Ripley County	6.0
Shannon County	7.0
St. Francois County	6.2
Ste. Genevieve Cty	5.0
Texas County	6.0
Washington County	8.2
Wayne County	6.7
Wright County	5.8
TOTAL	6.1

Seventeen counties: Bollinger County, Carter County, Crawford County, Dent County, Gasconade County, Iron County, Laclede County, Madison County, Reynolds County, Ripley County, Shannon County, St. Francois County, Ste. Genevieve County, Texas County, Washington County Wayne County and Wright County qualify based on having average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent above the national average during March 2005 – February 2007.

AREA	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAR 2005 – FEB 2007
St. Louis city	7.2

In addition, the State requests to exempt residents living in St. Louis City based on its average unemployment rates which are at least 20 percent above the national average for March 2005 through February 2007.

9. Justification for request:

As stated in number 8 above, the areas listed above have an average unemployment rate of at least 20 percent above the national average during a recent 24-month time period. All of the raw data supporting our numbers that we have used are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) website.

10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:

This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency operations in areas where unemployment remains higher than the national average.

11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristic, and quality control error rate for affected portion:

As of October 2007, 305,749 Households are participating in the Food Stamp Program in Missouri. There are no quality control procedures involved.

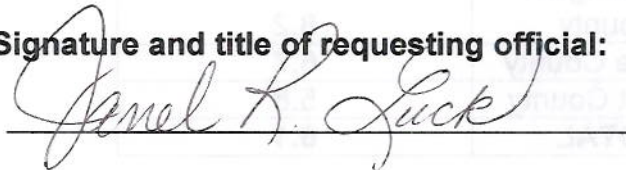
12. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:

The State is requesting a two-year waiver from April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2010.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

There is no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

14. Signature and title of requesting official:



15. Date of request:

12-17-07

AREA	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
St. Louis city	7.5
MAR 2005 - FEB 2007	

**AREAS IN MISSOURI THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR WAIVERS ON THE BASIS OF
MAR 2005 - FEB 2007
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES**

Please see worksheet entitled "Step 1" for monthly labor force numbers
Please see worksheet entitled "Step 2" for 24-month labor force totals
Please see worksheet entitled "Step 3" for monthly unemployed numbers
Please see worksheet entitled "Step 4" for 24-month unemployed totals

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Please see worksheet entitled "Step 1" for monthly labor force numbers

Please see worksheet entitled "Step 2" for 24-month labor force totals

Please see worksheet entitled "Step 3" for monthly unemployed numbers

Please see worksheet entitled "Step 4" for 24-month unemployed totals

	from Step 2	from Step 4	Step 1	Step 3	Step 4
	MAR 2005 - FEB 2007	MAR 2005 - FEB 2007	MAR 2005 - FEB 2007	MAR 2005 - FEB 2007	MAR 2005 - FEB 2007
	Total labor force	Total number of unemployed	Average Unemployment Rate (unrounded)	Average Unemployment Rate (4 decimal places)	Average Unemployment Rate (multiply by 100)
Combined Counties					
Bates County	193,045	11,166	0.05784	0.0578	5.78
Benton County	197,948	11,748	0.05935	0.0593	5.93
Caldwell County	107,148	5,757	0.05373	0.0537	5.37
Cass County	1,187,262	55,920	0.04710	0.0470	4.70
Henry County	252,463	14,306	0.05667	0.0566	5.66
Hickory County	80,011	5,860	0.07324	0.0732	7.32
Jackson County	8,179,513	476,080	0.05820	0.0582	5.82
Lafayette County	406,576	20,061	0.04934	0.0493	4.93
Ray County	287,354	14,611	0.05085	0.0508	5.08
St. Clair County	101,515	5,987	0.05898	0.0589	5.89
Total for Sub-region	10,992,835	621,496	0.05654	0.0565	5.65
Combined Counties					
Miller County	314,152	17,000	0.05411	0.0541	5.41
Morgan County	222,211	14,586	0.06564	0.0656	6.56
Total for Sub-region	536,363	31,586	0.05889	0.0588	5.88
Combined Counties					
Dunklin County	338,534	25,080	0.07408	0.0740	7.40
Mississippi County	136,911	9,441	0.06896	0.0689	6.89
New Madrid County	202,486	13,785	0.06808	0.0680	6.80
Perisot County	189,392	13,518	0.07138	0.0713	7.13
Total for Sub-region	867,323	61,824	0.07128	0.0712	7.12
Combined Counties					
Stone County	375,775	26,829	0.07140	0.0713	7.13
Taney County	603,376	45,960	0.07617	0.0761	7.61
Total for Sub-region	979,151	72,789	0.07434	0.0743	7.43
Combined Counties					
Bollinger County	142,600	8,006	0.05614	0.0561	5.61
Carter County	69,359	4,237	0.06109	0.0610	6.10
Crawford County	281,541	16,904	0.06004	0.0600	6.00
Dent County	153,770	9,546	0.06208	0.0620	6.20
Gasconade County	189,216	10,361	0.05476	0.0547	5.47
Iron County	116,321	7,225	0.06211	0.0621	6.21
Laclede County	404,330	20,607	0.05097	0.0509	5.09

Madison County	140,540	8,272	0.0586	0.0588	5.88	5.9
Marion County	113,833	5,259	0.0462	0.0461	4.61	4.6
Reynolds County	59,715	4,358	0.0729	0.0729	7.29	7.3
Ripley County	154,101	9,231	0.0599	0.0599	5.99	6.0
Shannon County	87,596	6,091	0.0695	0.0695	6.95	7.0
St. Francois County	659,257	41,057	0.0622	0.0622	6.22	6.2
Ste. Genevieve County	227,700	11,331	0.0497	0.0497	4.97	5.0
Texas County	249,526	15,071	0.0603	0.0603	6.03	6.0
Washington County	242,640	19,887	0.0819	0.0819	8.19	8.2
Wayne County	133,848	8,946	0.0668	0.0668	6.68	6.7
Wright County	191,813	11,054	0.0576	0.0576	5.76	5.8
Total for Sub-region	3,617,706	217,443	0.0601		6.01	6.0
Other Areas						
Kansas City city	5,674,568	370,098	0.0652	0.0652	6.52	6.5
National Unemployment Rate	3,618,004,000	173,150,000	0.0478		4.78	4.8
20% Threshold						5.7

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Dept. of Labor
Underlying data are available at www.bls.gov/lau/, and are attached.

County		Population	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate
Adair County	14,000	1,000	7.14	7.14	7.14	7.14
Atchison County	10,000	800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Barton County	12,000	900	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Baxter County	15,000	1,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Bell County	18,000	1,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Berkeley County	20,000	1,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Bethany County	22,000	1,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Bloomington County	24,000	1,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Bolton County	26,000	2,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Bourbon County	28,000	2,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Bowling Green County	30,000	2,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	32,000	2,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	34,000	2,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	36,000	2,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	38,000	3,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	40,000	3,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	42,000	3,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	44,000	3,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	46,000	3,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	48,000	3,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	50,000	4,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	52,000	4,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	54,000	4,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	56,000	4,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	58,000	4,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	60,000	4,800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	62,000	4,960	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	64,000	5,120	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	66,000	5,280	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	68,000	5,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	70,000	5,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	72,000	5,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	74,000	5,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	76,000	6,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	78,000	6,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	80,000	6,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	82,000	6,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	84,000	6,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	86,000	6,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	88,000	7,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	90,000	7,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	92,000	7,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	94,000	7,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	96,000	7,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	98,000	7,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	100,000	8,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	102,000	8,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	104,000	8,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	106,000	8,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	108,000	8,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	110,000	8,800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	112,000	8,960	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	114,000	9,120	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	116,000	9,280	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	118,000	9,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	120,000	9,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	122,000	9,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	124,000	9,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	126,000	10,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	128,000	10,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	130,000	10,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	132,000	10,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	134,000	10,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	136,000	10,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	138,000	11,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	140,000	11,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	142,000	11,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	144,000	11,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	146,000	11,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	148,000	11,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	150,000	12,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	152,000	12,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	154,000	12,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	156,000	12,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	158,000	12,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	160,000	12,800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	162,000	12,960	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	164,000	13,120	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	166,000	13,280	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	168,000	13,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	170,000	13,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	172,000	13,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	174,000	13,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	176,000	14,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	178,000	14,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	180,000	14,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	182,000	14,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	184,000	14,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	186,000	14,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	188,000	15,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	190,000	15,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	192,000	15,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	194,000	15,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	196,000	15,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	198,000	15,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	200,000	16,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	202,000	16,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	204,000	16,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	206,000	16,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	208,000	16,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	210,000	16,800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	212,000	16,960	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	214,000	17,120	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	216,000	17,280	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	218,000	17,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	220,000	17,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	222,000	17,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	224,000	17,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	226,000	18,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	228,000	18,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	230,000	18,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	232,000	18,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	234,000	18,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	236,000	18,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	238,000	19,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	240,000	19,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	242,000	19,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	244,000	19,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	246,000	19,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	248,000	19,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	250,000	20,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	252,000	20,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	254,000	20,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	256,000	20,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	258,000	20,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	260,000	20,800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	262,000	20,960	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	264,000	21,120	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	266,000	21,280	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	268,000	21,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	270,000	21,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	272,000	21,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	274,000	21,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	276,000	22,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	278,000	22,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	280,000	22,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	282,000	22,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	284,000	22,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	286,000	22,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	288,000	23,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	290,000	23,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	292,000	23,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	294,000	23,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	296,000	23,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	298,000	23,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	300,000	24,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	302,000	24,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	304,000	24,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	306,000	24,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	308,000	24,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	310,000	24,800	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	312,000	24,960	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	314,000	25,120	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	316,000	25,280	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	318,000	25,440	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	320,000	25,600	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	322,000	25,760	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	324,000	25,920	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	326,000	26,080	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	328,000	26,240	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	330,000	26,400	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	332,000	26,560	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	334,000	26,720	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	336,000	26,880	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	338,000	27,040	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	340,000	27,200	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	342,000	27,360	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	344,000	27,520	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	346,000	27,680	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	348,000	27,840	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	350,000	28,000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	352,000	28,160	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	354,000	28,320	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	356,000	28,480	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	358,000	28,640	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Boyd County	360					

