



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

FEB 10 2010

Jody Cornwell, Regional Director
Food Stamp Program, MPRO
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 903
Denver Colorado 80204-3585

Dear *Jody* ~~Ms. Cornwell~~:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (P.L.111-5), suspended the time limits for receipt of SNAP benefits for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) through September 30, 2010. Under federal regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), a state can qualify for a 12-month statewide ABAWD waiver if the Department of Labor's Unemployment Insurance Service determines it meets the criteria for extended unemployment benefits.

The January 20, 2010 "All Regional Directors" memo announced that Iowa is one of 49 states that meet the criteria to qualify for the 12-month statewide ABAWD waiver. The memo provides that by notifying the Regional Office, a state may continue to suspend the time limits on (ABAWDs) through at least September 30, 2011.

I am writing to inform you that Iowa will take advantage of this opportunity and continue to suspend the three month time limits on ABAWDs through September 30, 2011.

The memo was very timely and this option is a great benefit to Iowans in these difficult times. I appreciate the effort FNS makes to help states to reduce administrative burdens for both eligibility workers and recipients, and to provide the most benefits possible to recipient households.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann Wiebers".

Ann Wiebers, Administrator
Division of Financial, Health and Work Supports

AW/cs