



## TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

KYLE L. JANEK, M.D.  
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

June 19, 2013

Mr. Dwight Crudup  
Regional Director  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Food and Nutrition Service  
1100 Commerce Street, Room 522  
Dallas, Texas 75242-1005

Subject: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - Request for Extension of Waiver (#970057)

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission requests an extension of the existing waiver of 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), for the following twelve Texas counties: Cameron, Hidalgo, Jefferson, Maverick, Newton, Presidio, Red River, Sabine, San Augustine, Starr, Willacy, and Zavala. The current waiver expires September 30, 2013.

These twelve counties qualify as high unemployment areas under criteria specified in 7 CFR 273.24(f)(i), which allows the Secretary to approve state requests for exemption from work requirements for individuals residing in areas with unemployment rates exceeding ten percent. The extension request is for a one-year period beginning October 1, 2013, coinciding with the federal fiscal year.

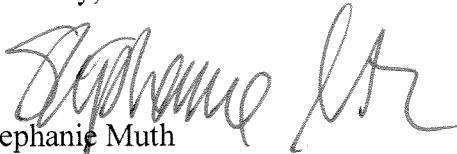
Attached is the most recent data on county unemployment rates from the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics website. The waiver uses the employment data from this time period and source. The method used is in compliance with the United States Department of Agriculture memo FSP-SO-2004-14 dated May 7, 2004. Details are contained in the attached standard-format waiver request.

In order to complete computer programming for these changes, a response is needed by July 19, 2013. Your consideration and prompt response is appreciated and will allow the state time to complete the necessary automation changes.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Cathy Rose, SNAP Lead, serves as lead staff on this matter and can be reached by telephone at (512) 206-4542 or by email at [Cathy.Rose@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:Cathy.Rose@hhsc.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Muth", written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Muth  
Deputy Executive Commissioner  
Office of Social Services

Attachment