

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver serial number:**
970050
2. **Type of request:**
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)(2)(ii)
5. **State:**
Hawaii
6. **Region:**
WRO
7. **Regulatory requirements:**

Under 7 CFR 273.24(b) individuals are not eligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36-month period, the individual received SNAP 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; participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; or participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

Under 7 CFR 273.24(f), upon the request of a State agency, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) may waive the applicability of the above provision for any group of individuals in the State if the FNS makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside 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:**

Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), a State can qualify for a 24-month ABAWD waiver if an area of the state experiences chronic high unemployment. This is the case with the island of Molokai in the county of Maui which has been faced with a monthly unemployment rate exceeding the national unemployment rate by more than 10% for the past 24 month.

9. Justification for request:

As stated in number 8 above, this is a request to exempt residents of the island of Molokai from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to the insufficiency of job availability. Refer to the attached documentation detailing the labor force and unemployment rate data for the island of Molokai as well as the national unemployment rate for the same period. The island of Molokai has been faced with a monthly unemployment rate exceeding the national unemployment rate by more than 10% for the past 24 month, and is therefore eligible for a 24-month waiver starting December 1, 2014 and lasting through November 30, 2016.

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.

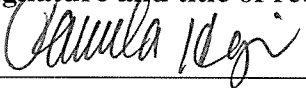
11. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:

The State is requesting a two-year waiver from December 1, 2014 through November 30, 2016.

12. Proposed quality control review procedures:

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

13. Signature and title of requesting official:



14. Date of request:

_____ 12/1/14 _____

Molokai Monthly Labor Force Data and Unemployment Numbers				
Time Period	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Oct-2012	2,550	2,200	350	14.1
Nov-2012	2,450	2,100	350	14.4
Dec-2012	2,450	2,150	350	13.3
Jan-13	2,450	2,250	200	8.7
Feb-2013	2,400	2,150	250	10.4
Mar-2013	2,350	2,100	250	10.5
Apr-2013	2,350	2,150	200	8.4
May-2013	2,350	2,150	200	8.5
June-2013	2,500	2,200	300	11.3
July-2013	2,500	2,200	350	13.1
Aug-2013	2,450	2,200	250	10.5
Sep-2013	2,400	2,150	250	10.8
Oct-2013	2,400	2,100	300	11.9
Nov-2013	2,350	2,150	200	7.7
Dec-2013	2,350	2,150	200	7.8
Jan-2014	2,600	2,400	200	6.8
Feb-2014	2,650	2,350	250	9.7
Mar-2014	2,600	2,400	200	8.2
Apr-2014	2,450	2,250	200	8.8
May-2014	2,400	2,200	200	8.6
Jun-2014	2,550	2,200	350	13.6
Jul-2014	2,450	2,150	300	12.0
Aug-2014	2,550	2,200	350	14.1
Sep-2014	2,550	2,150	400	15.5

Source: Hawaii Dept of Labor & Industrial Relations, Research & Statistics Office, LAUS Program

Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey

Original Data Value

Series Id: LNS14000000

Seasonally Adjusted

Series title: (Seas) Unemployment Rate

Labor force status: Unemployment rate

Type of data: Percent or rate

Age: 16 years and over

Years: 2012 to 2014

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2012	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.9
2013	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.0	6.7
2014	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8		

Time Period	Molokai Rate	National Rate	10% Benchmark
Oct-12	14.1%	7.8%	8.6%
Nov-12	14.4%	7.8%	8.6%
Dec-12	13.3%	7.9%	8.7%
Jan-13	8.7%	7.9%	8.7%
Feb-13	10.4%	7.7%	8.5%
Mar-13	10.5%	7.5%	8.3%
Apr-13	8.4%	7.5%	8.3%
May-13	8.5%	7.5%	8.3%
Jun-13	11.3%	7.5%	8.3%
Jul-13	13.1%	7.3%	8.0%
Aug-13	10.5%	7.2%	7.9%
Sep-13	10.8%	7.2%	7.9%
Oct-2013	11.9%	7.2%	7.9%
Nov-2013	7.7%	7.0%	7.1%
Dec-2013	7.8%	6.7%	7.4%
Jan-2014	6.8%	6.6%	7.3%
Feb-2014	9.7%	6.7%	7.4%
Mar-2014	8.2%	6.7%	7.4%
Apr-2014	8.8%	6.3%	6.9%
May-2014	8.6%	6.3%	6.9%
Jun-2014	13.6%	6.2%	6.8%
Jul-2014	12.0%	6.2%	6.8%
Aug-2014	14.1%	6.1%	6.7%
Sep-2014	15.5%	5.9%	6.5%