



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of
Health and Social Services

DIVISION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
Policy and Program Development

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November 30, 2016

Dennis Stewart
Regional Director
FNS/WRO/USDA
90 Seventh Street, Suite 10-100
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The State of Alaska is submitting the enclosed request for a modification and extension to waiver 2150041 concerning ABAWD work requirements from SNAP time limits from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), areas may qualify for an ABAWD time limit waiver if they have insufficient jobs. Alaska is requesting a 2-year waiver based on meeting the criteria listed in the 2006 FNS memo 2-Year Approval of Waivers of the Work Requirements for ABAWD's under 7 CFR 273.24, that an area is eligible for a 2-year ABAWD time limit waiver if its average unemployment rate over an applicable 36-month period is greater than 20 percent above the national average unemployment rate for the same time period.

For the time period of November 2013 through October 2016 Alaska has an average unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. The national average for the same time period was 5.5 percent; 20 percent above that was 6.6 percent. Alaska is supplying evidence that our state has an average unemployment rate for a 36-month time period that is at least 20% above the national average for the same 36-month period.

The State is requesting this waiver modification to help manage our caseload and to better serve our clients. Implementation of this waiver will allow the agency to help prevent a lapse in eligibility for our households, in addition to improved program administration.

If you have any questions, please contact Monica Windom at (907)465-5835, via email at monica.windom@alaska.gov or Rachel Martinez at (907)465-3201, via email at rachel.martinez@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monica Windom".

Monica Windom
Chief of Policy and Program Development
Division of Public Assistance