

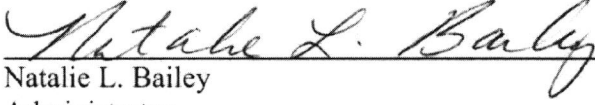
STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150046
2. **Type of request:** Extension and modification
3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended
4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
5. **State:** Virgin Islands
6. **Region:** MARO
7. **Regulatory requirements:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides that no able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) shall be eligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as a member of any household if the individual received program benefits for more than 3 months during any 3-year period in which the individual was subject to but did not comply with the ABAWD work requirement. Section 6(o) also provides that, upon the request of the State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the 3-month ABAWD time limit for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary 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. **Description of alternative procedures:** This request to exempt residents residing in the entire territory from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs is based on the territory qualifying for extended unemployment benefits within the past 12 months.
9. **Justification for request:** The U.S. Virgin Islands requesting a waiver to exempt residents residing in the entire territory from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs based on the U.S. Department of Labor data that the territory qualifies for extended unemployment benefits.

26 USC 3304 (Public Law 102-318) allows States the option of providing an additional alternative trigger for the extended benefits program, based on the State's seasonally adjusted total unemployment rate (TUR) for the most recent three months reaching at least: (1) 6.5 percent; and (2) 110 percent of such TUR for the corresponding three-month periods ending in either or both of the two preceding calendar years.

The Department of Labor's Trigger Notice No. 2018 – 52 shows the State's 3-month average total unemployment rate (TUR) was: (1) 13.4 percent and (2) 165 percent of

the 3-month average for the corresponding period in the first preceding year, making the State eligible for extended unemployment benefits.¹

10. **Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** This waiver will provide consistency for state operations.
11. **Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):** This waiver affects the entire territory.
12. **Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:**
The U.S. Virgin Islands is requesting a one-year waiver from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.
13. **Proposed quality control review procedures:** There are no quality control procedures involved.
14. **State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:** US Virgin Islands Department of Human Services, Ms. Natalie Bailey
15. **Signature and title of requesting official:**


Natalie L. Bailey
Administrator
Division of Family Assistance
Department of Human Services
Email for transmission of response: natalie.bailey@dhs.vi.gov
15. **Date of request:** September 25, 2018
16. **State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone):** Emmanueline Archer,
(340) 774-0930 ext. 4309, emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov
18. **Regional office contact person (to be completed by FNS regional office):**

¹ Extended Benefits Trigger Notices can be found at http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. Trigger notice 2018-52 was issued the week of January 14, 2018.

TRIGGER NOTICE NO. 2018 - 52
STATE EXTENDED BENEFIT (EB) INDICATORS UNDER P.L. 112-240
Effective January 14, 2018

			INDICATORS					STATUS	
			13 Weeks Insured Unemployment Rate	Percent of Prior Years	3 months S.A. TUR	Percent of Prior Year	Second Year	Available Weeks	Begin Date(B) End Date(E)
@	&	Alabama	0.92	78	3.6	59	59		E 04-21-2012
	&	Alaska	3.38	90	7.2	109	111	13	B 11-05-2017
	&	Arizona	0.86	82	4.5	90	79		E 06-11-2011
	&	Arkansas	1.14	75	3.6	90	78		E 09-26-2009
	&	California	1.94	89	4.9	92	84		E 05-12-2012
	&	Colorado	0.82	76	2.7	87	75		E 05-12-2012
		Connecticut	2.02	86	4.5	98	82		E 05-12-2012
*	&	Delaware	1.18	84	4.8	112	102		E 04-21-2012
	&	District of Col	1.52	99	6.5	112	100		E 06-09-2012
*	&	Florida	0.54	87	3.7	76	73		E 05-12-2012
*	&	Georgia	0.68	82	4.4	81	79		E 04-21-2012
	&	Hawaii	1.22	106	2.2	76	67		E 01-24-1981
	&	Idaho	1.01	80	2.8	76	68		E 08-11-2012
	&	Illinois	1.86	88	4.9	84	82		E 05-12-2012
	&	Indiana	0.51	64	3.8	90	83		E 04-21-2012
*	&	Iowa	1.14	79	3.1	86	82		E 06-04-1983
		Kansas	0.79	84	3.7	86	90		E 04-07-2012
*	&	Kentucky	0.93	86	5.0	102	94		E 04-07-2012
	&	Louisiana	1.00	82	4.9	80	80		E 02-25-2006
	&	Maine	0.86	76	3.5	90	88		E 02-18-2012
	&	Maryland	1.31	89	3.8	90	79		E 04-21-2012
	&	Massachusetts	1.78	85	3.7	116	82		E 04-07-2012
*	&	Michigan	1.25	87	4.5	90	88		E 02-18-2012
		Minnesota	1.46	95	3.4	85	89		E 01-14-2012
	&	Mississippi	0.85	77	5.0	88	81		E 07-16-1983
	&	Missouri	0.89	82	3.5	76	74		E 04-07-2012
	&	Montana	1.78	90	3.9	98	95		E 06-19-2010
	&	Nebraska	0.51	84	2.7	82	84		E 01-24-1981
	&	Nevada	1.65	83	5.0	94	77		E 07-07-2012
*		New Hampshire	0.60	86	2.7	96	87		E 08-14-2010
		New Jersey	2.25	90	4.9	102	94		E 07-07-2012
	&	New Mexico	1.28	81	6.1	90	94		E 01-28-2012
	&	New York	1.54	89	4.8	98	96		E 12-09-2012
		North Carolina	0.48	75	4.2	82	76		E 05-12-2012
*	&	North Dakota	0.89	83	2.5	83	86		E 06-11-1983
	&	Ohio	1.02	86	5.1	102	109		E 04-07-2012
	&	Oklahoma	0.95	71	4.3	88	98		E 01-24-1981
		Oregon	1.48	84	4.3	91	80		E 04-07-2012
	&	Pennsylvania	1.90	85	4.7	85	90		E 05-12-2012
	&	Puerto Rico	4.35	156	10.0	86	83		E 12-18-2010
		Rhode Island	1.58	88	4.2	82	75		E 07-07-2012
	&	South Carolina	0.88	98	3.9	89	71		E 04-07-2012
*	&	South Dakota	0.42	94	3.5	121	121		E 01-24-1981
	&	Tennessee	0.64	83	3.0	60	59		E 04-07-2012
	&	Texas	1.17	81	3.9	81	87		E 05-12-2012
*	&	Utah	0.66	83	3.3	103	92		E 06-25-1983
		Vermont	1.12	87	2.9	91	85		E 07-10-2010
#	&	Virgin Islands	7.69	357	13.4	165	176	13	B 12-17-2017
	&	Virginia	0.65	94	3.7	90	90		E 05-14-2011
*		Washington	1.68	97	4.5	85	80		E 04-21-2012
	&	West Virginia	1.54	72	5.2	88	80		E 06-09-2012
	&	Wisconsin	1.12	75	3.4	81	76		E 04-07-2012
*	&	Wyoming	1.22	62	4.2	84	93		E 06-13-1987

Total Number 'ON': 2

1

1

* - State does not have 6 % IUR option in law.

USDOL/ETA/OUI/DFAS

& - State does not have TUR option in law.

1/12/2018

@ - State "ON" by 3-month average TUR.

- State "ON" by 13-week IUR.

IUR reflects 13-week period ending December 30, 2017.

TUR reflects avg. seasonally adjusted TUR for 3-month period ending November 2017.

1/ TUR reflects avg. seasonally adjusted TUR for 3-month period ending August 2017.