

FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION

October 31, 2019

Eric Ratchford
Regional Division Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Mid-Atlantic Region, USDA-FCS
Food and Nutrition Service
Mercer Corporate Park
300 Corporate Boulevard
Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Dear Mr. Ratchford:

The Maryland Department of Human Services (MD DHS) is pleased to submit the attached request to exempt certain local jurisdictions from implementation of the Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) time limit policy.

This request is based on evidence showing counties or regions of the State with average unemployment rates that are 20 percent above the national average, and counties or regions with low and declining employment-to-population ratios. The labor market information presented as part of this request was compiled by Center for Budget and Policy Priorities using data from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at netsanet.kibret@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Netsanet Kibret
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Alexis Lometz, FNS
Kim Lightfoot, MD DHS
Augustin Ntabaganyimana, MD DHS
Daiquiri Anderson, MD DHS
Carrie Durham, MD DHS