

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150032
2. **Type of request:** Renewal
3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
5. **State:** Michigan
6. **Region:** MWRO
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 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 SNAP work requirements. Regulations at 273.24(a) provide that fulfilling the work requirement means: working 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; participating in and complying with the requirements of a work program or a workfare program for at least 20 hours per week; or any combination of working and participating in a work program for a total of 20 hours per week.

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 time limit described above for any group of individuals in the State if FNS makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.
8. **Description of alternative procedures:**

The State of Michigan is requesting a waiver to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in the entire state from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.
9. **Justification for request:**

Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), areas may qualify for an ABAWD time limit waiver if they have insufficient jobs. To support this claim, states may submit evidence that an area has an average unemployment rate for a 24-month time period that is at least 20 percent above the national average for the same 24-month period. 7 CFR 273.24(f)(6) provides that States may define areas to be waived.

The State of Michigan seeks a statewide waiver based on an average unemployment rate that is 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of March 2020 through February 2022. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-

month period was 6.7 percent; 20 percent above this was 8.1 percent. The average unemployment rate for the state was 8.1 percent for the same period.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data March 2020 through February 2022			
	Unemployed	Labor Force	Unemployment Rate
Michigan	9,276,223	115,220,824	8.1%
20% Above National Average Threshold	8.1%		

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. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):

This waiver affects the entire state.

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

The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2024.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

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

14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:

MI Department of Health & Human Services, Dawn M. Sweeney

15. Signature and title of requesting official:

Dawn M. Sweeney

Title: SNAP State Administrator

Email for transmission of response: sweeneyd1@michigan.gov

16. Date of request: 9/1/2022

17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone): Dawn M. Sweeney
sweeneyd1@michigan.gov 517-243-5560

18. Regional office contact person (to be completed by FNS regional office):