



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

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Alexandria
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SEP 02 2015

Ms. Pamela Higa
SNAP Administrator
Department of Human Services
Benefit, Employment & Support Services Division
820 Mililani Street, Suite 606
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SNAP – Hawaii Request to Waive Able-bodied Adults without Dependents
Time Limit

Dear Ms. Higa:

This is in response to the Hawaii Department of Human Services' request to waive the able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) time limit on Molokai Island. The Hawaii State agency has supported its request based upon Molokai Island having a most recent average unemployment rate over 10 percent. The Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations data provided by the State demonstrates that Molokai Island had an unemployment rate of 11 percent for the 12-month period of December 2013 through November 2014.

Under Federal regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(4), the State agency may begin to operate a waiver at the time the waiver request is submitted in areas for which the State certifies that data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics or a cooperating agency show a most recent average unemployment rate over 10 percent. Hawaii notified the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of its intention to waive the time limit on Molokai Island on December 1, 2014. Consistent with Federal regulations, FNS approves of Hawaii waiving the time limit on Molokai Island for a 12-month period, effective December 1, 2014, through November 30, 2015. FNS finds no modifications to the waiver necessary. FNS has assigned waiver number 2150080 to this approval for tracking purposes.

Please contact Maribelle Balbes at Maribelle.Balbes@fns.usda.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal
Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division