

April 13, 2004

2020120

SUBJECT: FSP – Mississippi – Request to Waive 7 CFR 273.24

TO: Charlie Simmons, Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Southeast Region

This is in response to your staff's March 8, 2004 e-mail message, forwarding Mississippi's request to modify and extend waiver #2020120, exempting individuals from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 if they reside in a county designated as a Labor Surplus Area (LSA) by the Department of Labor.

Mississippi is requesting to extend its current waiver in the following 45 counties based on their designation as LSAs: Adams, Attala, Benton, Bolivar, Calhoun, Carroll, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Claiborne, Clarke, Clay, Coahoma, Copiah, Franklin, George, Greene, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Kemper, Lawrence, Leflore, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery, Noxubee, Panola, Perry, Pike, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tishomingo, Walthall, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wilkinson, Winston, Yalobusha, and Yazoo. The State Agency is also requesting to modify its current waiver by exempting individuals residing in the LSA counties of Alcorn, Newton, and Tippah, for a combined total of 48 counties.

We are approving the State Agency's request effective April 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005. Individuals residing in the approved 48 counties are exempt from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to insufficient jobs as determined by their designation as LSAs by the Department of Labor.

This waiver is approved under 7 CFR 273.24(f), which allows the Secretary to waive the applicability of the work requirement provision for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside has insufficient jobs.

If you have any questions, please contact Vicky Robinson of my staff at (703) 305-2476.

/s/

Harriet Kornegay
Acting Branch Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

cc: Bob Dalrymple
Mike Depiro, OAE
Civil Rights

FINAL:USDA:FNS:FSP:PDD:CPB:Vrobinson:04-07-04:
FILE:I:CPB:Waivers:FY 2004/2020120 MS ABAWD (ext and mod)