



Department for Children and Families
Economic Services Division
Food and Nutrition Programs
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-1201
(802) 241-2820 Fax (802) 241- 3934
www.dcf.state.vt.us

August 12, 2010

Mary Ann Ferris, Director
SNAP Program
USDA/NERO/FNS
10 Causeway St., Room 501
Boston, MA 02222

SUBJECT: Intent to Extend Suspension of ABAWD Time Limits through September 2011

Dear Ms. Ferris: *Mary Ann*

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (P.L.111-5), provided for State agencies to suspend SNAP time limits on Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) through September 30, 2010. Vermont took advantage of that waiver beginning in March 2009. This letter serves as our notice of intent to continue the suspension of ABAWD time limits through September 30, 2011, as allowed under federal regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(t)(2).

Vermont qualifies for an extension of the statewide ABAWD waiver based on its eligibility under Department of Labor's Unemployment Insurance Service criteria for extended unemployment benefits. We are electing to continue the suspension of ABAWD time limits through at least September 30, 2011. Although ABAWDs will no longer be subject to time limits and work participation rules, they will continue to be mandatory work registrants and must sign the work registration form at initial certification and once every 12 months thereafter.

Please contact me at 802-241-2820, or by email at Renee.Richardson@ahs.state.vt.us, if you have any further questions.

Thank you for this opportunity to continue to provide much-needed food assistance to this often vulnerable population.

Sincerely,
Renee Richardson
Renee Richardson
Director

/rwr

cc: Christopher Nasados, Program Specialist, FNS
Pam Dalley, Interim Deputy Commissioner, ESD