

December 27, 2004

970036

SUBJECT: FSP - West Virginia - Request to waive 7 CFR 273.24

TO: Joseph Weingart, Director  
Food Stamp Program  
Mid-Atlantic Region

This is in response to your memorandum of December 21, 2004, forwarding West Virginia's December 14, 2004 request to extend waiver # 970036, which would waive the work requirement for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD's).

The State agency requested a waiver for four counties because they have unemployment rates above 10 percent. The counties are Calhoun, McDowell, Mason, and Wirt. However, we are approving the waiver for a different reason, that the counties all appear on the Department of Labor's (DOL's) list of Labor Surplus Areas for fiscal year 2005 (which DOL recently posted on their web site at [http://www.doleta.gov/programs/pdf/lsa\\_listing\\_of\\_areas.pdf](http://www.doleta.gov/programs/pdf/lsa_listing_of_areas.pdf)).

Since these four counties are waived under 970037 until March 31, 2005, this waiver will be in effect from April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact Thomas O'Connell of my staff via email.

/s/

Harriet Kornegay  
Assistant Branch Chief  
Certification Policy Branch

cc: All Regions (except MARO)  
PAD-QC  
Bob Dalrymple – OAE  
Mike DePiro – OAE  
David Young

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