

March 8, 2006

970129

SUBJECT: FSP – Missouri Request to Waive 7 CFR 273.24 – Work Requirements
(ABAWDs)

TO: Jody Cornwell, Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Mountain Plains Region

This is in response to your e-mail of February 24, 2006, forwarding Missouri's January 25, 2006, request to extend its current waiver of 7 CFR 273.24. This waiver would waive the work requirement for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs).

The Missouri State Agency is requesting a waiver for the following areas based on their designation as Labor Surplus Areas by the United States Department of Labor for two consecutive fiscal years 2003–2004: Dunklin County, Hickory County, Iron County, Laclede County, Linn County, Mississippi County, New Madrid County, Pemiscot County, Reynolds County, Shannon County, Stone County, Sullivan County, Taney County, Texas County, Washington County, Wayne County, and the City of St. Louis.

You mentioned in your memo to Art Foley that Missouri has withdrawn their original request for an exemption of Henry County which is on the LSA list because it does not meet the two-year approval of the work requirements for ABAWDs under 7 CFR 273.24. Henry County will be exempt under the 15 percent exemption authority.

We are approving the Missouri waiver request for a period of 2 years effective April 1, 2006. This waiver will expire on March 31, 2008. Approval is based on our review of the Employment and Training Administration notice on the Labor Surplus Area designations for fiscal year 2005 and 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennie Nelson of my staff via e-mail or telephone at (703) 305-2446.

/s/

Harriet Kornegay
Assistant Branch Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Jody Cornwell, Regional Director
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cc: All Regions
Bob Dalrymple - OANE
David Young
John Knaus

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