

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

Pat McCrory Governor Aldona Z. Wos, M.D. Ambassador (Ret.) Secretary DHHS

> Wayne E. Black Division Director

August 4, 2014

RE: Food and Nutrition Services Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Waiver

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Administrators, Managers and Supervisors

In order for a State to qualify for a waiver from the three month time limit, states must demonstrate that an area within the state has evidence of insufficient jobs. SNAP regulations define "insufficient jobs" in an area as having had an unemployment rate that meets one of a limited number of qualifying thresholds. Those thresholds include those used by the Department of Labor to define areas as Labor Surplus Areas (LSA) or as eligible for Unemployment Insurance Extended Benefits.

Due to the States unemployment rate and labor surplus areas, North Carolina remains eligible to suspend the time limits for ABAWD's through <u>September 30, 2015</u>. Tracking of the waived months is <u>not</u> necessary while this waiver is in place. The ABAWD provisions are reviewed annually to determine if a state continues to be eligible to waive these provisions.

If you have any questions, contact your Food and Nutrition Services and Energy Programs Regional Support Team directly via email.

Sincerely,

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David Locklear, Acting Chief Economic and Family Services

EFS-FNSEP-12-2014



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