

## STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150019
2. **Type of request:** Extension and amendment
3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended
4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
5. **State:** California
6. **Region:** WRO
7. **Regulatory requirements:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides that no able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) shall be eligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as a member of any household if the individual received program benefits for more than 3 months during any 3-year period in which the individual was subject to but did not comply with the ABAWD work requirement. Section 6(o) also provides that, upon the request of the State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the 3-month ABAWD time limit for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent, or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.
8. **Description of alternative procedures:** The State of California is requesting to exempt ABAWDs in 52 counties from the SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.
9. **Justification for request:** Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), areas may support a claim of insufficient jobs by submitting evidence that an area has an average unemployment rate for a 24-month time period that exceeds the national average for the same 24-month period by 20 percent. 7 CFR 273.24(f)(6) provides that States may define areas to be waived.

The State of California seeks a waiver extension for a regional group of 52 contiguous counties based on the region having an average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of January 2016 through December 2017. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 4.6 percent; 20 percent above this was 5.5 percent. The region's average unemployment rate for this period was also 5.5 percent. If approved, California will implement the ABAWD time limit as of September 1, 2019 in three new counties, for a total of 6 implementing counties. Those 6 counties include Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara.

**Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data  
January 2016 through December 2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Unemployed Total</b>	<b>Labor Force Total</b>
Alpine County	828	13,137
Amador County	19101	352,282
Butte County	151,876	2,459,625
Calaveras County	26,221	504,628
Colusa County	38,966	260,418
Del Norte County	16,394	234,824
El Dorado County	101,954	2,147,684
Fresno County	965,748	10,748,668
Glenn County	24,546	310,875
Humboldt County	68,703	1,507,842
Imperial County	387,713	1,811,676
Inyo County	10,214	210,856
Kern County	910,698	9,280,670
Kings County	130,060	1,380,734
Lake County	43,993	706,549
Lassen County	15,354	244,826
Los Angeles County	6,068,713	122,146,447
Madera County	127,339	1,473,042
Mariposa County	11,660	182,880
Mendocino County	46,682	957,059
Merced County	275,271	2,768,406
Modoc County	6,215	78,391
Mono County	9,953	203,536
Monterey County	391,464	5,275,508
Napa County	70,127	1,764,756
Nevada County	51,704	1,163,647
Orange County	1,456,821	38,655,465
Placer County	181,074	4,348,565
Plumas County	17,496	188,143
Riverside County	1,448,741	25,517,887
Sacramento County	842,767	16,767,499
San Benito County	45,628	721,826
San Bernardino County	1,205,411	22,596,267
San Diego County	1,650,945	37,859,095
San Joaquin County	582,977	7,731,599
San Luis Obispo County	133,583	3,388,398

Santa Barbara County	248,125	5,196,808
Santa Cruz County	218,370	3,453,566
Shasta County	114,158	1,787,190
Sierra County	2,238	31,671
Siskiyou County	33,935	431,016
Solano County	256,685	5,005,295
Sonoma County	230,191	6,274,973
Stanislaus County	469,795	5,841,321
Sutter County	99,708	1,083,705
Tehama County	41,064	609,035
Trinity County	7,868	120,002
Tulare County	530,531	4,912,533
Tuolumne County	30,060	517,402
Ventura County	497,024	10,233,320
Yolo County	140,079	2,569,710
Yuba County	54,694	680,325
<b>Combined Area Total</b>	20,511,465	374,711,582
<b>Combined Area Unemployment Rate</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	
<b>20% Above National Average Threshold</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	

- 10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency operations in areas where unemployment remains higher than the national average.
- 11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affected portion (if applicable):** The caseload for these areas, as of July 2018 is 197,918, representing 94% of the caseload for the state. There are no quality control procedures involved.
- 12. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:** The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020.
- 13. Proposed quality control review procedures:** There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.
- 14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:**

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California Department of Social Services  
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(916) 653-6162

**15. Signature and title of requesting official:**

*Kim McCoy Wade*

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**16. Date of request:** September 27, 2018

**17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone):**

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**18. Regional office contact person (*to be completed by FNS regional office*):**