

information submitted during the comment period, we have determined that implementation of either alternative examined in the environmental assessment—i.e., the barging of municipal solid waste from Hawaii to landfills within the States of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho under compliance agreements with APHIS or taking no action (no interstate movement of municipal solid waste from Hawaii)—is not expected to result in a significant impact to the human environment, and an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared.

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 12th day of June 2008.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E8–13735 Filed 6–17–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Waivers Under Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on proposed information collections. The proposed collection is a revision of a currently approved collection.

The purpose of Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, is to establish a time limit for the receipt of food stamp benefits for certain able-bodied adults who are not working. The provision authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, upon a State agency's request, to waive the provision for any

group of individuals if the Secretary determines “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.” As required in the statute, in order to receive a waiver the State agency must submit sufficient supporting information so that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) can make the required determination as to the area's unemployment rate or sufficiency of available jobs. This collection of information is therefore necessary in order to obtain waivers of the food stamp time limit.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 18, 2008.

ADDRESSES: *Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Patrick Waldron, Chief, Certification Policy Branch, Program Development Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be faxed to the attention of Mr. Waldron at (703) 305–2486. The e-mail address is: Patrick.Waldron@FNS.USDA.GOV. All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, 22302, Room 812.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Mr. Waldron at (703) 305–2495.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Waiver Guidance for Food Stamp Time Limits.

OMB Number: 0584–0479.

Expiration Date: August 31, 2008.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), Public Law 104–193, 110 Stat. 2323 amended Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2015(o)) to establish a time limit for the receipt of food stamp benefits for certain able-bodied adults who are not working. The provision authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, upon a State agency's request, to waive the provision for any group of individuals if the Secretary determines “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.” As required in the statute, in order to receive a waiver the State agency must submit sufficient supporting information so that USDA can make the required determination as to the area's unemployment rate or sufficiency of available jobs. This collection of information is therefore necessary in order to obtain waivers of the food stamp time limit. During the last three years, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has received on average 48 requests for waivers from an average of 48 State agencies. We wish to note that FNS has granted a limited number of 2-year waivers and that the estimated average of 48 submissions a year is based on multiple annual submissions from some State agencies and less biannual submissions from other State agencies. Each request submitted by a State agency to exempt individuals residing in specified areas is considered by FNS to be a separate request, since the requested exemptions may be based on different criteria, are submitted at different times, and require separate analysis. Although State agencies have submitted significantly fewer multiple requests since the last time that this reporting burden was extended, in order to ensure that all areas that potentially qualify for exemptions are included in their waiver requests, State agencies are employing a more sophisticated analysis covering multiple timeframes and multi-county geographical and labor market areas, requiring more time for the preparation and evaluation of each request.

Affected Public: State and Local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 48.

Estimated Number of Responses: 48.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Time per Response: 35 hours.

Estimated Total Burden: 1680 hours.

Dated: June 12, 2008.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. E8-13739 Filed 6-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection

Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Evaluation of the Birth Month Breastfeeding Changes to the WIC Food Packages

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection.

On December 6, 2007, FNS published an interim regulation in the **Federal Register**: Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Revisions in the WIC Food Packages; Interim Rule [72 FR 68966]. This current notice announces FNS' intent to request from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to collect information for the evaluation of impacts of the Interim Rule on the food package choices and breastfeeding outcomes of postpartum women who participate in WIC.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 18, 2008.

ADDRESSES: *Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to: Ted Macaluso, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA

22302. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Ted Macaluso at 703-305-2576 or via e-mail to Ted.Macaluso@fns.usda.gov.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Ted Macaluso at 703-305-2121.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Evaluation of the Birth Month Breastfeeding Changes to the WIC Food Packages.

OMB Number: Not Yet Assigned.

Expiration Date: Not Yet Determined.

Type of Request: New collection of information.

Abstract: The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), (42 U.S.C. 1786) provides low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five with nutritious supplemental foods. The program also provides nutrition education and referrals to health and social services. An Interim Rule published on December 6, 2007 (72 FR 68966) revises the WIC food packages to align them with the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and infant feeding practice guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The Interim Rule revisions largely reflect recommendations made by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the United States National Academies, in its 2005 report, "WIC Food Packages: Time for a Change," with certain cost containment and administrative modifications found necessary by the Department to ensure cost neutrality. The Interim Rule's comment period ends on February 1, 2010.

The revised food packages for infants and women were designed to strengthen WIC's breastfeeding promotion efforts and provide additional incentives to assist mothers in making the decision to start and continue breastfeeding. Under the interim regulation, there are three infant feeding options available in the first month after birth—either (1) fully formula feeding; (2) fully breastfeeding; or (3) partially breastfeeding. Under the partial breastfeeding food package, the amount of infant formula available during the first month postpartum is limited. Thereafter, in months two through six, partially breastfed infants may only receive one half of the maximum amount of infant formula available to a fully formula fed infant. These changes are designed to promote

the initiation, intensity, and duration of breastfeeding. The underlying theory is that by greatly reducing the amount of formula available for the partial breastfeeding option in the first month postpartum: (a) more mothers will initiate breastfeeding; and (b) mothers who have difficulty breastfeeding during the first month will be less likely to stop breastfeeding if formula is not so readily available. In addition, if less formula is available to partial breastfeeding mothers in months two through five postpartum, there is a greater likelihood that: (a) mothers will feed their infants relatively more breastmilk than formula each month; and (b) they will do so for longer than they would if formula were more plentiful.

These regulatory changes may have intended or unintended consequences for WIC mothers and infants. To identify potential positive impacts of the regulatory change, to address concerns about unintended consequences, and in response to recommendations from the IOM to study the effects of the rule change, FNS has funded this study to examine the effects of the changes in packages for postpartum women and infants on the initiation, intensity, and duration of breastfeeding.

To study the effects of the changes in food packages for postpartum women and infants, FNS is conducting a study in 16 Local WIC Agencies (LWAs). The study will gather data from administrative records; local WIC administrators; and WIC participants in 16 LWAs, selected as a sample with probability proportional to size; as well as officials from those States where the 16 LWAs are located. Data will be gathered prior to and after the interim regulation is implemented. The study will measure the impact of changes on food package choices and on breastfeeding initiation, intensity and duration. The study also will describe the implementation of these changes in these LWAs.

Affected Public: Respondent groups identified include: (1) WIC participants who are postpartum women with infants newborn through six months of age; (2) local WIC administrators from 16 LWAs selected as a sample with probability proportional to size; and (3) State WIC officials from, at most, 16 States (if the 16 sampled Local WIC Agencies are from different States).

Estimated Number of Respondents: The total estimated number of respondents is 2,144. This includes: 2,000 WIC participants (80% of whom will complete interviews); 16 Local WIC Agency directors; 16 Local WIC Agency outreach coordinators; 16 Local WIC