Appendix R-9-A Public Comment 9

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General Comment

My name is Shyla Patera. I am an independent living specialist with North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. I wish to comment on the FNS notice: agency information activities; proposals, submissions, and approvals surveys of snap and work. I am an independent living specialist that works with low income north central Montanans with disabilities. I understand that many Montanans with disabilities will not be counted in this collection of work activities for snap eligibility but I am concerned that the standard for able-bodied snap recipients will become the norm throughout the eligibility categories for and of the SNAP program. I do not understand how states and agencies are not giving the food and nutrition service FNS the data, but those of an application for SNAPprograms and services are required to report our incomes and sources. I am concerned that this collection will be used to tighten work requirements for SNAP eligibility. We should be encouraging work which is already happening for many SNAP recipients and families. I am unsure if the collection is needed because SNAP

Recipients must report income changes as well as income for eligibility. If the FNS is not getting the data on income eligibility needed we need to examine other issues.