



United States
Department of
Agriculture

DEC 18 2009

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

Ms. Barbara Bucsko
Director
Operations Support Division
Economic Services Administration
State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services
P.O. Box 45445
Olympia, Washington 98504-5445

Ms. Bucsko:

Thank you for your October 30, 2009, comments to the 60 day notice for the "Form FNS 380, Worksheet for the Quality Control Review" proposed collection burden. Within your comments you indicated that your state takes 30 hours to complete a case review, instead of the estimated 8.9 hours we had for the national burden due to the increase in Categorical Eligibility, difficult access to clients, higher caseloads, budget issues affecting the number of review staff available, supervisory reviews, and preparing the cases for the FNS re-review.

After reviewing the burden you recommended, we have determined that we will not be able to make any changes to the current national burden rate for this form as the state of Washington's 30 hour recommendation may not be a reflection of all state agencies participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In addition, we would like to address two comments regarding the supervisory reviews (error review panels), as well as preparing cases for re-review.

Neither supervisory reviews nor preparing cases for FNS re-review are a part of our analysis since error review panels are not a part of quality control, but are a tool for payment accuracy purposes. In addition, preparing a case for FNS re-review would not come until after the FNS-380 was already completed and submitted to FNS for re-review (assuming it was sampled by the state). We hope these clarifications assisted in clearing any confusion you may have had.

We would like to thank you for your comments and thank you for your time in letting us know your thoughts on the FNS-380 worksheet burden package for 2009.

Sincerely,

Francis Heil
Chief
Quality Control Branch