

Dear Ms. Sassman:

Thank you for submitting comments Services to Federal Register listing FNS-2015-0018-0001, Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Food Program and Reporting System on behalf of the California Department of Social Services. This is a response from the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to your comments regarding burden hours and cost. All other relevant comments are addressed in the Supporting Statement for this Information Collection Request. The Supporting Statement will be publicly available upon approval by the Office of Management and Budget.

Comment: “We conduct over 200,000 SNAP investigations each year and are concerned about the amount of time and effort it would take to accurately track the time for individual investigations from the date of referral all the way to the completion of the investigation; and for those cases referred for prosecution or ADH, the disposition of those cases. This would be a tremendous undertaking and would likely pull our limited resources away from conducting investigations.”

FNS Response: Collecting information on investigation activity is necessary to provide a clearer picture of the unique environment of fraud activity in each State. FNS has revised the instructions to clarify the definition of the SNAP investigations that State agencies report on the FNS-366B. It is likely that many of the aforementioned 200,000 investigations will not meet this definition and, therefore, will not require additional tracking for this collection. Collecting dispositions for administrative disqualification hearing (ADH) and prosecution cases will not create any additional burden or cost because they are collected on the current FNS-366B.

Thank you again for your submission,