

Food and Nutrition Service

Braddock Metro Center II 1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** James Crowe

Desk Officer

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB

THROUGH: Kelly Stewart

Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs

Ruth Brown

Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Department

of Agriculture

**FROM:** Pamilyn Miller

Administrator

**RE:** Emergency Approval of New Information Collection for

**Implementation of the Families First Coronavirus Response** 

**Act of 2020** 

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is requesting emergency approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) to collect information associated with implementation of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020.

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, enacted on March 18, 2020, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to approve state plans to provide temporary emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) assistance to households with children who would otherwise receive free or reduced-price meals if not for their schools being closed due to the COVID-19 emergency (also known as Pandemic EBT, or P-EBT). It also provides for the issuance of emergency allotments (supplements) based on a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act related to an outbreak of COVID-19 when a State has also issued an emergency or disaster declaration.

FNS seeks emergency approval of information collection activities associated with administering P-EBT and emergency allotments. FNS cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures under the PRA because complying would delay the agency's ability to provide emergency food assistance to families and children impacted by COVID-19. As such, we request expedited approval of this information collection.

| for Kelly Stewart, Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs | Date |
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| Pamilyn Miller, Administrator                             | Date |