



October 5, 2015

Dear Governor Kasich:

I write today to encourage you to reconsider your decision not to include Dayton in your request for a waiver of Supplemental Nutrition Aid Program (SNAP) time limits for adults who are not elderly, disabled or with custody of children. In the past two years, the state government, which requests the waivers, did so for more than a dozen counties, all rural, but excluded other cities and counties that met the criteria. Dayton and other urban areas also need to have access to this aid to assist their citizens.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture rules allow states to ask for SNAP waivers at the city level. Dayton's unemployment rate of 8.4 percent was more than 120 percent of the federal unemployment rate between January 2013 and December 2014, establishing that the city is eligible to participate in the waiver. This is true also of a number of other cities.

Many Ohio citizens struggle with "severe food insecurity" and I urge your administration to request and accept waivers for cities and counties that are eligible. We see this lack of access in Dayton, and believe that by taking maximum advantage of what is permitted under USDA waiver rules; we can provide crucial food aid.

As Mayor of an urban municipality, poverty and unemployment are continually a part of how we engage and serve our citizens. As such, we must pursue every effort that can provide the assistance to the citizens of Dayton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nan Whaley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nan Whaley