

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

- 1) Heading of the Part: Food Stamps
- 2) Code Citation: X
- 3)

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Action:</u>
X	X
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing Article (x) and authorized by Section (x) of the (state) Public Aid Code [x].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues involved: (select one from the following)
 - A. As part of the Agency's initiative to simplify Food Stamp policy, this rulemaking eliminates the consideration of assets in determination of eligibility for Food Stamps. By eliminating the asset limit for Food Stamps, families can be encouraged to build a savings fund that would assist them in maintaining self-sufficiency when they experience an employment setback.
 - B. This rulemaking is being proposed in accordance with an option provided under the Title IV of the Farm Bill (HR 2646- The Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002). Under this provision, states may exclude certain types of resources from consideration as an asset when determining eligibility. This rulemaking exempts pension plans, including accounts solely owned by an individual such as an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), 401 K and Keogh Plan. Implementing this change will simplify the way these assets are considered for the Food Stamp Program. In addition the rule will raise the asset test to \$50,000.
- 6) Will this rulemaking replace any emergency rulemaking currently in effect?
- 7) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date?
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain incorporations by reference?
- 9) Are there any other amendments pending on this Part?
- 10) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives (if applicable): (insert agency's statement on program or similar language).
- 11) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Interested persons may present their comments concerning these rules within (x) days after the date of this issue of the (state) Register. All requests and comments should be submitted in writing to:

(name of head of agency), title
agency name