

AGENCY NAME:	SC Department of Social Services		
AGENCY CODE:	L040	SECTION:	38

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	38.1
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2015-16 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	DSS: Fee Retention
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Provide the title from the FY 2014-15 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	II. Programs and Services F. Integrated Child Support Services
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

DECISION PACKAGE	N/A
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Is this request associated with a decision package you have submitted for FY 2015-16? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY	<p>This proviso requires SCDSS to send the General Fund the first \$800,000 of funds recouped from overpayments and refunds. All funds in excess of the \$800,000 shall be used by SCDSS for program and related activities.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it.

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EXPLANATION	<p>This proviso was first adopted before FY 1979-80, at the time welfare benefits to clients were funded under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program 60% Federal and 40% State. In 1996 the AFDC program was converted to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Client benefits under this program were changed to 100% Federal, with the exception of a small part of the client population, approximately 10%, which are funded 100% State. This proviso has not been changed to reflect the change in the source of funds for client benefits.</p> <p>SCDSS is requesting to amend this proviso to allow SCDSS to draw down an additional \$1.6 million of federal funds through the 66% federal match available to the Child Support program. These funds will be used to fund Self-Sufficiency and Family Preservation and Support initiatives, and for the operations of the Child Support program, and to improve the security of Federal Tax Information (FTI) and Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data.</p> <p>Currently, the SCDSS collects approximately \$26 million per year by intercepting the taxes to be refunded to individuals who have a child support debt. The Internal Revenue Service controls the process of these intercepts and mandates the federal rules for handling FTI. Failure to follow the rules for storage, handling and transmission of this highly confidential FTI has both criminal and financial penalties. If the State of South Carolina is decertified to be able to intercept these funds, there would be major fiscal impacts.</p> <p>The criminal penalty for wrongfully disclosing or failing to properly secure FTI is 5 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine for each infraction. With several hundred SCDSS child support caseworkers having access to data and several thousand taxpayers' files being vulnerable, the potential for multiple breaches is significant. The resultant penalties would likewise be severe.</p> <p>The financial penalty on South Carolina and its citizens if SCDSS loses the ability to intercept child support debts from potential refunds is also significant. Of the \$26 million that SCDSS intercepts, approximately \$20 million is owed and paid directly to the children to whom this money is owed. These funds, if not intercepted, would go to the non-custodial parent who filed the tax return and experience indicates that the likelihood of this money subsequently being sent by the non-custodial parent to pay his/her child support is extremely remote. The State of South Carolina receives approximately \$6 million of the funds intercepted because this is recoupment of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds already provided to our citizens which would be lost to the State if SCDSS was not able to intercept tax refunds.</p>
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Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

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FISCAL IMPACT	<p>Amending the proviso will decrease the General Fund revenue by \$800,000; however, by retaining those funds to be used as match, SCDSS can increase the total funds available by \$1.6 million. These funds will be used to fund Self-Sufficiency and Family Preservation and Support initiatives, and for the operations of the Child Support program, and to improve the security of Federal Tax Information (FTI) and Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data.</p>
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

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<p>PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT</p>	<p>38.1. (DSS: Fee Retention) The Department of Social Services shall recoup all refunds and identified program overpayments and all such overpayments shall be recouped in accordance with established collection policy. Funds of \$800,000 collected under the Child Support Enforcement Program (Title IV-D) which are state funds shall be remitted to the State Treasurer and credited to the General Fund of the State. All state funds above \$800,000 shall be retained by the department and <u>may be used to fund Self-Sufficiency and Family Preservation and Support initiatives, to make improvements to the security of FTI and PII data, and for child support operations.</u></p>
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Paste FY 2014-15 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

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FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	38.19 <i>Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2015-16 (or mark "NEW").</i>
TITLE	DSS: Meals in Emergency Operations <i>Provide the title from the FY 2014-15 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.</i>
BUDGET PROGRAM	All Programs <i>Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.</i>
DECISION PACKAGE	None <i>Is this request associated with a decision package you have submitted for FY 2015-16? If so, cite it here.</i>
REQUESTED ACTION	Codify <i>Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.</i>
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None <i>Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?</i>
SUMMARY	<p>This proviso is necessary in order to provide meals for employees who are required to work at emergency shelters and other locations and are unable to leave their station and are not in a travel status. SCDSS is the Primary State Agency designated for coordinating Mass Care operations (ESF-6). Mass Care encompasses sheltering (existing or constructed facilities); feeding (fixed sites, mobile feeding units); bulk distribution of food and supplies; first aid at mass care facilities and designated sites; and disaster welfare inquiry. SCDSS is also the Primary State Agency designated for coordinating Food Services (ESF-11). SCDSS is responsible for coordinating all ESF-11 administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating and maintaining ESF-11 Standard Operating Procedures. In addition, the SCDSS serves a support role for Long-Term Community Recovery and Mitigation (ESF-14), and Donated Goods and Volunteer Services (ESF-18).</p>

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it.

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EXPLANATION	<p>SCDSS requests that this proviso be codified. This proviso allows SCDSS to provide meals for employees who are required to work at emergency shelters and other locations and are unable to leave their station and are not in a travel status.</p>
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Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT	<p>This proviso affects state and federal funds and would vary depending on the number of emergencies and the number of employees participating. No additional fiscal impact to the agency from codification.</p>
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

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38.19. (DSS: Meals in Emergency Operations) The cost of meals may be provided to state employees who are not permitted to leave their stations and are required to work during actual emergencies, emergency situation exercises, and when the Governor declares a state of emergency.

**PROPOSED
PROVISO TEXT**

Paste FY 2014-15 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

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FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	38.23
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2015-16 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	DSS: SNAP Coupons
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Provide the title from the FY 2014-15 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	II. Programs and Services L. Food Services Public Assistance
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

DECISION PACKAGE	N/A
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Is this request associated with a decision package you have submitted for FY 2015-16? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY	<p>This proviso creates the Healthy Bucks program to provide coupons that will allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to obtain additional fresh fruits and vegetables when purchasing fresh produce at farmer’s markets with SNAP benefits through their EBT cards. This program was funded with \$1.892 million in bonus funds received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for reducing the error rate in processing SNAP application for FFY12. Since June 2014 when the program started, until November 2014, \$2,620 of the \$1.8 million had been expended. Part of the difficulty in administering the program has been the restriction of using only farmer markets for distribution of the coupons.</p> <p>SCDSS is proposing amending the proviso to more effectively utilize these funds while continuing to support healthy eating habits among SNAP recipients through education and the ability to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. To do this SCDSS proposes utilizing the unexpended balance of the Healthy Bucks program to enter into contracts with DHEC and Clemson to provide nutrition education to SNAP clients. By utilizing these funds for nutrition education, SCDSS can ensure that the \$1.8 million from bonuses currently funding the Healthy Bucks program will continue to be used to support healthy eating initiatives and the desired outcome of the proviso. Additionally, a portion of the funds would be utilized to subsidize funding the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables at farmer’s markets after the completion of a SNAP Education program.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state

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of affairs without it.

EXPLANATION	<p>Specifically, the money will be used to provide incentives for the purchase of healthy food after a client has participated in the required SNAP education initiatives as well as the provision of a meal after the client has participated in a healthy cooking demonstration. Additionally, some of the funds could be used to continue to subsidize purchases made at farmer’s markets through the current Healthy Bucks model after participation in the SNAP education initiatives is completed. To see more success in the Healthy Bucks model, lessons learned from year one would be incorporated to ensure SNAP recipients are learning about the available funding, are educated about the various types of produce available, as well as learning how to cook the produce bought.</p> <p>Due to language changes in the 2014 Farm Bill re: ways states are allowed to use bonuses received as a result of high and/or improved performance in the SNAP program, bonus funds awarded to the state can no longer be used to provide for client incentives.</p>
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Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT	N/A
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

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**PROPOSED
PROVISO TEXT**

38.23. (DSS: SNAP Coupons Nutrition Education) The Department of Social Services shall ~~establish a program to provide coupons that will allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to obtain additional fresh fruits and vegetables when purchasing fresh produce at grocery stores or farmers markets with SNAP benefits through their EBT cards. Each coupon shall allow the beneficiary to double the amount of produce purchased, up to five dollars. The agency shall utilize all funds received in the prior and current fiscal years from the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a bonus for reducing the error rate in processing SNAP applications to fund the program.~~ utilize the unexpended balance from the Healthy Bucks program established under proviso 38.25 of the FY 2014-15 Appropriations Act to provide incentives as established by DSS to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) clients participating in SNAP nutritional education programs. These programs include topics such as the benefits of eating more fruits and vegetables, reading nutrition labels, healthy cooking, healthy alternatives, eating healthily on a fixed income, and other healthy nutritional programs. SCDSS shall utilize a portion of the unexpended balance to provide coupons that will allow SNAP recipients to obtain additional fresh fruits and vegetables when purchasing fresh produce at farmer’s markets with SNAP benefits through their EBT cards.

Paste FY 2014-15 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.