

Tax Rebates: No Effect on Food Stamps

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has sent a telegram to the states saying that the income tax rebates and special payments will have no effect on the eligibility of food stamp participants.

Those rebates and payments were provided for in the Tax Reduction Act of 1975 which President Ford signed into law on March 29, 1975.

The law provides refunds on 1974 individual income taxes and a special \$50 payment to recipients of social security, railroad retirement, and Supplemental Security Income Benefits.

The Tax Reduction Act of 1975 requires that refunds and special payments shall not be counted as income or resources for purposes of determining eligibility or the amount of benefits received under any federal assistance program.

Therefore, these refunds and special payments will not be included as income or resources under the food stamp program.