SUBJECT: Change in the Crediting of Poi as a Grains/Bread

TO: Allen Ng
Regional Administrator
Western Regional Office

This memo is in reference to a request from the Hawaii State Agency to review a 1991 decision requiring 1 cup of poi to credit as 1 slice of bread. In a March 4, 1991, memorandum, poi, taro and breadfruit were accepted as grains/breads to accommodate the cultural and dietary differences in the State of Hawaii.

We reviewed the decision made in 1991 and have concluded that the crediting for poi should be changed. The 1991 decision was based on the belief that the level of iron in poi was low. When recent nutritional data was reviewed, it showed that the iron content was high enough to reduce the portion size. Therefore, ½ cup of poi provides 1 serving of grains/breads. This is a change from the previous requirement to serve 1 cup of poi as 1 grains/bread serving.

Please note that taro and breadfruit still require 1 cup to provide 1 serving of grains/breads. Based on the nutritional breakdown of taro and breadfruit, no change was made.

The Hawaii State Agency still retains the authority to grant these exceptions State-wide as provided in the original memo. Please contact Stanley Garnett, if you have any further questions related to the above subject.

Peter S. Murano
Deputy Administrator
Special Nutrition Programs
NT-3

Ms. Donna Matsufuru
Interim Director
Office of Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs
1106 Koko Head Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816
Dear Ms. Matsufuru:

Dear Ms. Matsufuru:

In an e-mail sent on September 16, 2002, the Food and Nutrition Service communicated a crediting change in the portion size for poi. The update established that ½ cup of poi is creditable as one grain/bread serving in the Child Nutrition Programs.

The enclosed memorandum provides official notification of this change. If you have further questions, please contact me at (415) 705-2229.

Sincerely,

JANET ALLEN, Director
Special Nutrition Programs
Western Region

Enclosure (1)

cc:  Reese Payton