

**TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT**  
**DIVISION 8: PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

**§ 82601. Definitions.**

For the purposes of this Article, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) “Final day of actual attendance” means the last day a separating employee is considered to be employed and actively working for a department or agency of the Commonwealth Government and shall not include days in which annual or sick leave is used.

(b) “Government employee” means any person employed for any department, division, or agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches of government and in any independent or autonomous agencies.

(c) “Lump sum payment” means a payment made to a separating employee in cash for unused annual leave.

(d) “Separation from employment” means the cessation of employment from the Commonwealth Government, whether by resignation, contract expiration, termination, or any other means.

**Source:** PL 15-57, § 2 (8276), modified.

**Commission Comment:** The Commission assigned different section numbers than that specified in PL 15-57 pursuant to its authority by 1 CMC § 3806. PL 15-57 was enacted on April 25, 2007 by override, and included the following findings and purpose in addition to severability and savings provisions.

Section 1. Findings and Purpose. The Commonwealth Legislature finds that the departments of the Commonwealth government are hampered by “unfunded liabilities” in the form of large accruals and lump sum payments of annual leave to their employees. It is the intention of this legislation to reduce these large unfunded liabilities by converting annual leave in excess of 360 hours to sick leave. This will hopefully provide the departments and agencies of the Commonwealth Government, including those in the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches and in autonomous agencies, with a more sound financial footing during this time of financial difficulty.