

§ 2823. Establishment of Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation.

(a) There is hereby established in the Commonwealth a Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, a public corporation.

(b) The Corporation shall be an independent public healthcare and medical services provider, financially self-sufficient, professionally managed, and nationally accredited whose purpose is to develop and regulate, as necessary, a high quality, efficient, and market oriented public healthcare delivery system in the CNMI, and to coordinate the delivery of quality healthcare and medical services to all Commonwealth residents in a financially responsible manner.

(c) The Corporation shall be responsible for the management and operations of the hospital on Saipan, and the clinics on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, including the Community Guidance Center, the Health Network Program to facilitate patient access to care within CHCC's network of providers in the Commonwealth and off-island, other clinics, and the Division of Public Health in the Commonwealth.

(d) Upon this Chapter becoming law, the Corporation shall be managed pursuant to this Chapter by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for six months following the date the Board of Trustees are fully organized, to allow the trustees time to familiarize and understand the management process and programs of the Corporation, as its operations are complex, and subject to rigid compliance with federal regulation. And at the end of the six-month period, thereupon, the management and control of the Corporation shall be transferred to the Board of Trustees. Thereafter, the CEO and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) shall report directly to the Board of Trustees in accordance with this Chapter, and shall perform such duties and responsibilities provided under this Chapter accordingly.

(e) The fiscal year of the Corporation shall correspond to that of the Commonwealth Government.

Source: PL 16-51 § 3(2803) (Jan. 15, 2010); repealed and reenacted by PL 19-78 § 2 (Jan. 14, 2017), modified; amended by PL 22-33, § 3 (Jan. 31, 2023).

Commission Comment: [Historical comments removed.]

In codifying PL 19-78, the Commission inserted a serial comma and struck the comma before “and the Division” in (c) and changed “becomes” to “becoming” after “Upon this Chapter” and “CFO” to “Chief Financial Officer (CFO)” in (d) pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(g). The Commission changed capitalization in (d) for the purpose of conformity pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(f).

Commission Comment: *Legislative Findings of 2023 Amendment.*— For Findings and Purpose of PL 22-33, see Commission comment to 9 CMC § 2837.