

**TITLE 3: HUMAN RESOURCES  
DIVISION 4: IMMIGRATION**

**CHAPTER 2.**

**Permanent Residency Status [Repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B)].**

- § 4201. Permanent Residency: Repeal of Authorizing Act. [Repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B)]
- § 4202. Permanent Residency: Reservation of Right and Status. [Repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B)]
- § 4203. Relationship to Other Law. [Repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B)]

**§ 4201. Permanent Residency: Repeal of Authorizing Act [Repealed].**

**Source:** PL 2-17, § 1; repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B).

**Commission Comment:** PL 2-17 took effect April 23, 1981. The former reference to “Public Law 5-11” in this section was apparently a reference to DL 5-11, which took effect April 1, 1977, and was repealed by PL 2-17. PL 2-17, § 2 (codified as [3 CMC § 4202](#)) preserved the rights and status of persons who were granted or applied for permanent residency status pursuant to DL 5-11 prior to the effective date of PL 2-17.

As enacted, DL 5-11 provided:

Section 1. The Resident Commissioner may grant permanent residency status to persons who:

- (1) are not citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and
- (2) are of good moral character, as certified by the Mayor of the Municipality in which such persons have resided, provided, however, that persons under the age of 16 are presumed to be of good moral character, unless otherwise demonstrated; and provided further, that no person convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude shall be deemed to be of good moral character unless such person shall have received a full pardon and had his civil rights restored; and
- (3) have been actual residents of the Northern Mariana Islands for at least five (5) years immediately prior to application for permanent residence status.

Section 2. Persons granted permanent residency status under Section 1 of this Act shall be subject to cancellation of such status after hearing for cause, upon application by the Resident Commissioner to the Trial Division of the High Court. Cause for revocation of permanent residency status shall be:

- (1) concealment or misrepresentation of a material fact in application for permanent residency status; or
- (2) advocacy of the overthrow or alteration of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Government of the United States by unlawful means; or
- (3) commission of, or attempt or preparation to commit, an act of espionage, sabotage, or sedition against the Government of the Northern

**TITLE 3: HUMAN RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION 4: IMMIGRATION**

Mariana Islands or the Government of the United States, or conspiring with or aiding and abetting another to commit such an act; or

(4) fraudulent or illegal entry into the Northern Mariana Islands, either prior to or after the grant of permanent residence status; or

(5) travel, within five (5) years of the granting of permanent residency status, to any foreign country for the purpose of establishment of permanent residence therein; provided, that the United States, its Territories and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands shall not be considered a foreign country for the purposes of this Subsection.

Section 3. Persons granted permanent residency status pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of this Act are exempted from the requirements of Subsection (1) of Section 53 of Title 53 of the Trust Territory Code concerning the requirement to obtain an entry permit prior to entry into the Northern Mariana Islands. Authority to enter into and remain in the Northern Mariana Islands for persons who have been granted permanent residency status pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of this Act shall, except as otherwise set forth herein, be identical to that of citizens of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Nothing in this Act, however, shall exempt any person not a citizen of the Trust Territory from the provisions of the Protection of Resident Workers Act, the Foreign Investment Business Permit Act, restrictions upon ownership of land, or any other provision of law otherwise applicable, or shall make such person eligible for naturalization unless such person is otherwise eligible by law therefor.

Section 4. The Resident Commissioner shall issue permanent identification cards to persons who have been granted permanent residence status pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

Section 5. The Resident Commissioner shall issue such rules and regulations not inconsistent herewith as he shall deem necessary or appropriate for the administration of this Act.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the Resident Commissioner, or upon its becoming law without such approval.

**§ 4202. Permanent Residency: Reservation of Right and Status [Repealed].**

**Source:** PL 2-17, § 2; repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B).

**Commission Comment:** See the comment to [3 CMC § 4201](#).

**§ 4203. Relationship to Other Law [Repealed].**

**Source:** PL 2-17, § 2; repealed by PL 17-1 § 5(B).

**Commission Comment:** See the comment to [3 CMC § 4201](#).