

Rules and Regulations

Federal Register

Vol. 67, No. 42

Monday, March 4, 2002

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

5 CFR PART 630

RIN 3206-AJ51

Absence and Leave; Use of Restored Annual Leave

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of Personnel Management is issuing final regulations to aid agencies and employees responding to the "National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks" on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The regulations provide that employees who forfeit excess annual leave because of their work to support the Nation during this national emergency are deemed to have scheduled their excess annual leave in advance. Such employees are entitled to restoration of their annual leave under these regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 3, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Herzberg, (202) 606-2858, FAX (202) 606-4264, or e-mail: payleave@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 14, 2001, President Bush declared a "National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks" on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. On November 2, 2001, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) published interim regulations (66 FR 5557) to provide relief to Federal employees who otherwise would have forfeited excess annual leave at the end of the leave year because of their involvement in efforts connected with the national emergency. The interim regulations became effective on December 3, 2001. Many agencies are involved in activities vital to our Nation

as a result of the unprecedented events of September 11, 2001, the efforts toward recovery and response, and the continuing threat of further attacks on the United States. As a result, many Federal employees involved in these activities were unable to schedule and use excess annual leave and would have forfeited that leave at the end of the leave year. The interim regulations simplified the restoration of these employees' forfeited annual leave and imposed relaxed time limitations for using restored annual leave.

The 60-day comment period ended on January 2, 2002. We received no formal comments from either agencies or individuals. In informal comments, agency representatives expressed their satisfaction with the regulations. As a result, we believe no changes are necessary in the interim regulations. Therefore, we are adopting as final the interim rule providing that excess annual leave forfeited by employees who were unable to schedule and use their leave due to their involvement in national emergency efforts is deemed to have been scheduled in advance and therefore eligible for restoration.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that these regulations will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because they will affect only Federal agencies and employees.

E.O. 12866, Regulatory Review

The Office of Management and Budget has reviewed this rule in accordance with Executive Order 12866.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 630

Government employees.

Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,

Director.

Accordingly, under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 6304(d)(2), the Office of Personnel Management adopts the interim regulations amending subpart C of 5 CFR part 630, published at 66 FR 55557 on November 2, 2001, as final.

[FR Doc. 02-5063 Filed 3-1-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Parts 614 and 619

RIN 3052-AB93

Loan Policies and Operations; Definitions; Loan Purchases and Sales; Effective Date

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

ACTION: Notice of effective date.

SUMMARY: The Farm Credit Administration (FCA) published a final rule under parts 614 and 619 on January 10, 2002 (67 FR 1281). This final rule will enable Farm Credit System (FCS or System) institutions to better use existing statutory authority for loan participations by eliminating unnecessary regulatory restrictions that may have impeded effective participation relationships between System institutions and non-System lenders. We believe that these regulatory changes will improve the risk management capabilities of both System and non-System lenders and thereby, enhance the availability of reliable and competitive credit for agriculture and rural America. In accordance with 12 U.S.C. 2252, the effective date of the final rule is 30 days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register** during which either or both Houses of Congress are in session. Based on the records of the sessions of Congress, the effective date of the regulations is March 4, 2002.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The regulation amending 12 CFR parts 614 and 619 published on January 10, 2002 (67 FR 1281) is effective March 4, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark L. Johansen, Policy Analyst, Office of Policy and Analysis, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, VA 22102-5090, (703) 883-4498; or James M. Morris, Senior Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, VA 22102-5090, (703) 883-4020, TDD (703) 883-4444.

(12 U.S.C. 2252(a)(9) and (10))

Dated: February 27, 2002.

Kelly Mikel Williams,

Secretary, Farm Credit Administration Board.

[FR Doc. 02-5093 Filed 3-1-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6705-01-P