

**TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT**  
**DIVISION 6: ELECTIONS**

**§ 6601. Election Contests: Recount.**

(a) Any Commonwealth voter may contest an election for any of the following reasons:

(1) The person declared elected to an office will not be eligible for that office at the beginning of his term.

(2) The candidate has given to an election official anything of value to procure his election.

(3) The Commission in the conduct of election or arithmetical tabulation of votes made errors sufficient to change the final result of the election as to any person who has been declared elected.

(4) Actual fraud by any person in the voting process, in the conduct of the election or in the tabulation of the votes sufficient to have changed the outcome of the election.

(b) *Recount.* If less than five votes separate the person declared elected and the next highest vote getter, the next highest vote getter is entitled to a recount. Such recount shall be made in the presence of the parties and the Commonwealth Superior Court. A quorum of the Commonwealth Election Commission will conduct the recount and will be responsible for the recount and determining marks on ballots and envelopes and determining the intent of the voter.

**Source:** Repealed and reenacted by PL 12-18, § 2 (6601); amended by PL 17-11 § 19 (August 12, 2010).

**Commission Comment:** The above § 6601 et seq., is similar to the former § 6421 (source: DL 5-19, § 17, modified; amended by PL 5-7, § 3) et seq.

The enactment of PL 12-18, the Northern Mariana Islands Election Law, on September 14, 2000, required the renumbering of the Executive Transition Act from § 6601 et seq., to § 6901 et seq., by the Commission.