

ACT NO. 8734

BILL NO. 35-0035

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2023

An Act amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part II, chapter 39, section 436(b), by expanding the definition of “disabled veteran” for the purposes of eligibility for a disabled window decal, making various appropriations and amending Act No. 8681

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part II, chapter 39, section 436(b) is amended in the following instances:

(a) In paragraph (1) by striking “United States Veterans Administration” and inserting “Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs” in its place.

(b) By striking the language in paragraph (2) in its entirety and replacing it with “For purposes of this subsection, ‘disabled veteran’ means a person who has been designated as such by federal law as evidenced by the presentation of a United States Department of Veterans Affairs Benefit Summary Letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration. The Benefit Summary Letter must identify the veteran as ‘permanently disabled’ or ‘totally and permanently disabled’. Injuries must be service-related and suffered while serving in the United States Armed Forces or any of its reserve components.”

SECTION 2. (a) The sum of \$350,000 is appropriated in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, from the St. Croix Capital Improvement Fund to the Virgin Islands Department of Sports, Parks and Recreations to be used as a grant to Eddie Ortiz Annual Three Kings Tradition, Inc. for the construction of a steel roof on the basketball court in Estate Profit, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

(b) Eddie Ortiz Annual Three Kings Tradition, Inc. is subject to and must comply with the reporting requirements of title 2 Virgin Islands Code, section 29.

(c) The sum appropriated in subsection (a) is available from the effective date of this act and remains available until expended.

SECTION 3. The sum of \$200,000 is appropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands to the Virgin Islands Fire Service, to be used to cover the costs associated with extinguishing the July 2023 Bovoni Landfill fire on the island of St. Thomas.

SECTION 4. Act No. 8681 is amended in the following instances:

- (a) In Sections 1 (a) strike “2023” and insert “2025”.
- (b) In Section 4 (g) strike “or for the last seat for the delegate at large,”.
- (c) In Section 6, subsection (a) strike “2023” and insert “2025”.
- (d) In Section 7:
 - (1) subsection (b) strike both references to “2024” and insert “2026”;
 - (2) subsection (c) strike “2025” and insert “2027”; and
 - (3) subsection (d)(3) strike “2025” and insert “2027”.
- (e) In Section 8:
 - (1) subsection (a) strike “2023” and insert “2025”, and strike “2024” and insert “2026”;
 - (2) subsection (b) strike “2023” and insert “2025”;
 - (3) subsection (c) strike “2024” and insert “2026”; and
 - (4) subsection (d) strike “2024” and insert “2026”.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on July 20, 2023.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 24th Day of July, A.D., 2023.



Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
President

Carla J. Joseph
Carla J. Joseph
Secretary



Bill No. 35-0035 is hereby approved.

**Witness my hand and the Seal of the Government of
the United States Virgin Islands at Christiansted,
St. Croix, This 15 day of August, 2023 A.D.**


**Albert Bryan Jr.
Governor**