COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE

BILL NO. 36-0083

Thirty-Sixth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

May 8, 2025

An Act establishing a 90-day amnesty period for the waiver of penalties for payment of outstanding property taxes, income taxes, and gross receipt taxes for all tax years to assist taxpayers and businesses recovering from the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria and Tropical Storm Ernesto

PROPOSED BY: Senators Kenneth L. Gittens and Novelle E. Francis, Jr.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Within seven days after the effective date of this act, the Director of the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue ("the Bureau") shall establish a 90-day amnesty period for the waiver for all tax years including:

(1) penalties on payment of outstanding income taxes; and

(2) penalties and interest on payment of outstanding gross receipt taxes.

SECTION 2. The Director of the Bureau shall waive the penalties and interest on outstanding taxes, as authorized under section 1 of this act, for any taxpayer who voluntarily:

(1) files a tax return for each tax year for which an amnesty waiver is requested; and

(2) pays the entire balance of the outstanding tax within the 90-day amnesty period.

SECTION 3. This act does not apply to taxpayers who have made payments of penalties or interest on outstanding taxes before the commencement of the tax amnesty period established in section 1 of this act.

SECTION 4. The Director of the Bureau shall publish information about the tax amnesty established by this act on the bureau's website, on social media platforms, and in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the territory.

SECTION 5. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Lieutenant Governor under title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 89, section 2494, the Lieutenant Governor shall waive all penalties and interest levied on outstanding real property taxes for a period of 90 days from the date of enactment of this act, for taxes paid within the 90-day amnesty period.

BILL SUMMARY

This bill establishes a 90-day amnesty period during which taxpayers can pay their delinquent income taxes and gross receipt taxes without interest and penalties during a 90-day amnesty period. The bill also requires the Bureau of Internal revenue to publish notice of the amnesty on its website, on social media platforms, and in a newspaper of general circulation.

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