

BILL NO. 35-0148

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

September 19, 2023

An Act providing an appropriation for the operation of the Judicial Branch of the Government of the Virgin Islands, the Judicial Council, and the Office of the Territorial Public Defender during the fiscal year October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024 and amending title 5, chapter 302 of the Virgin Islands Code regarding the name of the Office of the Territorial Public Defender

PROPOSED BY: Senators Novelle E. Francis, Jr., and Donna A. Frett-Gregory by Request of the Governor

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The following sums are appropriated from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands for operating expenses in the fiscal year starting October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, to the following entities:

0100 GENERAL FUND	FY 2024
JUDICIAL COUNCIL	\$ 130,620
VIRGIN ISLANDS JUDICIARY AND COURT SYSTEM	\$ 42,500,000
OFFICE OF THE TERRITORIAL PUBLIC DEFENDER	\$ 5,632,220
TOTAL 0100 GENERAL FUND	\$ 48,262,840

SECTION 2. Title 5 Virgin Islands Code, part I, chapter 302, subchapters I and II, sections 3520 - 3523, 3524a, 3525, and 3527 are amended by inserting “Territorial” before “Public Defender” wherever it appears.

BILL SUMMARY

Section 1 of this bill provides for a \$48,262,840 appropriation from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands, of which \$130,620 is appropriated to fund the Judicial Council, \$42,500,000 to fund the Virgin Islands Judiciary and Court System, and \$5, 632,220 to fund the Office of the Public Defender for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Section 2 amends various sections of title 5 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 302, subchapters I and II to rename the Office of the Public Defender, the Office of the Territorial Public Defender.

BR23-0786/BUDGET/September 15, 2023