

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Territory of the Virgin Islands
REGULAR/SPECIAL SESSION 19____
ROLL CALL

Bill No. 23-0181

Date: 11/5/99

Short Title: To posthumously award the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor to all Veterans of the United States Virgin Islands who lost their lives while serving in the United States Armed Forces and to authorize that the Medal of Honor be displayed in the Memorial Display Room at the Arlington National Cemetery along with those of other

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

- (a) Introduced and sent to Committee on.....Date.....
- (b) Reported from Committee and sent to Rules on.....
- (c) Reported from Committee on Rules.....
- (d) Recalled from Committee by Special Order.....
- (e) Adopted on.....
- (f) Rejected on.....
- (g) Vetoed by Governor on.....
- (h) Reconsidered by Legislature and passed or rejected over Governor's Veto on.....

MEMBERS	YEA	NAY	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
BENNERSON, Gregory A.	1			
BERRY, Lorraine L.	2			
BRYAN, Adelbert M.		1		
COLE, Donald "Ducks"	3			
DAVID, Roosevelt St. C.				1
DONASTORG, Adlah "Foncie"	4			
GOLDEN, Violet Anne	5			
GOMEZ, Judy M.	6			
GOODWIN, George E.	7			
HANSEN, Alicia "Chucky"				2
JN. BAPTISTE, Norman	8			
JONES, David S.	9			
LIBURD, Almando "Rocky"	10			
PETRUS, Allie-Allison	11			
RICHARDS Vargrave A.	12			

12 1
Certified true and correct

CLERK

BILL NO. 23-0181**Twenty-Third Legislature of the Virgin Islands
of the United States**

November 5, 1999

To posthumously award the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor to all veterans of the United States Virgin Islands who lost their lives while serving in the United States Armed Forces and to authorize that the Medal of Honor be displayed in the Memorial Display Room at the Arlington National Cemetery along with those of other jurisdictions

PROPOSED BY:

Senators Lorraine L. Berry, Vargrave A. Richards,
Roosevelt St. C. David, David S. Jones, George E. Goodwin, Violet Anne
Golden and Judy M. Gomez: Co-sponsored by: Senators Adlah "Foncie"
Donastorg, Donald "Ducks" Cole, George E. Goodwin, Norman Jn.-Baptiste
and Almando "Rocky" Liburd

- 1** **WHEREAS**, Virgin Islanders were accorded full United States citizenship in
2 1927 and several Virgin Islanders served in various branches of the United States Armed
3 Forces immediately following their enfranchisement; and
4
5 **WHEREAS**, during World War II, the Territory of the Virgin Islands petitioned
6 the Congress of the United States of America to include residents of the Virgin Islands in
7 the military draft into the Armed Forces of the United States, and the Congress acceded
8 to the request; and
9
10

WHEREAS, Virgin Islands residents were drafted into the United States Army and continued to volunteer and serve in other branches of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, a disproportionate number of Virgin Islanders gave their lives in the defense of freedom, therefore, there is need to recognize the ultimate sacrifice of Virgin Islanders in a more tangible way particularly in relation to the war dead of other jurisdictions under the American Flag; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to pay tribute to those veterans at an appropriate venue such as at Arlington National Cemetery; **Now, Therefore,**

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, hereby confers the Medal of Honor on all Virgin Islanders who, while members of the Armed Forces of the United States, lost their lives in the service of their country and who rest in cemeteries in the Virgin Islands and other cemeteries throughout the world.

SECTION 2. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands further authorizes that the Medal of Honor be displayed in the Memorial Display Room at the Arlington National Cemetery and that an appropriate frame, made of Virgin Islands grown mahogany, be prepared in which the Medal of Honor be placed together with a metal plate with the following inscription:

**“This medal is posthumously dedicated to the memory
of all veterans of the United States Virgin Islands who
have served their country with honor and rest in**

honored glory in Arlington National Cemetery and
other cemeteries throughout the world.”

SECTION 3. The Virgin Island’s Medal of Honor shall be presented to the
Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery by the President of the Legislature, or his
designee, at an appropriate ceremony held for that purpose.

BR99-0963/August 27, 1999/ :as
Reviewed by: