

BILL NO. 35-0297

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

July 15, 2024

An Act amending title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 111 establishing the Defense Support to Civil Authorities Fund and making an annual appropriation of \$500,000 to the Fund

PROPOSED BY: Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 111 is amended by adding a section 3100ii that reads as follows:

§ 3100ii. Defense Support to Civil Authorities Fund

(a) A separate special fund to be designated as the “Defense Support to Civil Authorities Fund” is established in the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands. The Commissioner of Finance shall maintain the Fund separate and apart from any other funds of the Government of the Virgin Islands, including the General Fund.

(b) The Fund consists of:

(1) an annual appropriation of \$500,000 by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands; and

(2) public and private grants gifts, donations, bequests and devises of money made to the Fund.

(c) The Commissioner of Finance shall administer the Fund and shall disburse monies from the Fund at the direction of the Adjutant General of the Virgin Islands in

1 equal amounts for emergency expenditures and all other defense support to civil
2 authorities response efforts.

3 (d) No monies in the Fund are available for expenditure or disbursement except
4 as provided in this section.

5 (e) The Commissioner of Finance shall maintain a record of all monies deposited
6 into and disbursed from the Fund and shall annually report to the Governor and the
7 Legislature, as well as the Adjutant General, as to the status of the Fund.

8 **BILL SUMMARY**

9 This bill establishes the Defense Support to Civil Authorities Fund and appropriates
10 \$500,000 annually to the Fund.

11 **BR23-0666/July 2, 2024/LMW**