

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, JUSTICE AND PUBLIC
SAFETY

12/12/2024-REPORTED OUT TO THE FLOOR

12/11/2024-REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 35-0420

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

December 10, 2024

An Act amending title 23, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5 by enacting the “Virgin Islands Firearm Serial Number Regulation Act”

PROPOSED BY: Senator Kenneth L. Gittens

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 23, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5 is amended by inserting the following section 490:

“§ 490. Serial Number Requirement for Firearms

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the “Virgin Islands Firearm Serial Number Regulation Act.”

(a) All firearms manufactured, sold, transferred, or possessed in the Virgin Islands shall have a unique serial number engraved or stamped on the firearm by the manufacturer.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to possess a firearm that does not have a serial number.

1 (c) This section does not apply to:

2 (1) Firearms that were manufactured prior to the effective date of this Act
3 if they are registered with the appropriate authority within six months of
4 enactment of this Act.

5 (2) Firearms that are exempt under federal law.

6 (d) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and subject to a fine of
7 not more than \$10,000 and imprisoned for not less than fifteen years without parole.”

8 **BILL SUMMARY**

9 This bill amends title 23, chapter 5 of the Virgin Islands Code by enacting the “Virgin
10 Islands Firearm Serial Number Regulation Act” to address issues of gun violence,
11 accountability and responsibility, and enhance law enforcement capabilities.

12 **BR24-1357/November 27, 2024/PFA**