

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

03/09/2023-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE FLOOR
02/28/2023-REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 35-0009

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

January 31, 2023

An Act amending title 1 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 11, section 171(a) relating to the observance of national holidays and enacting The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act to declare June 19 a legal holiday in the Virgin Islands

PROPOSED BY: Senator Marvin A. Blyden, Alma Francis Heyliger and
Milton E. Potter
Co-sponsors: Angel L. Bolques, Jr., Ray Fonseca,
Novelle E. Francis, Jr., Kenneth L. Gittens and Marise C. James

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act.

SECTION 2. Title 1 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 11, section 171, subsection (a) is amended in the following instances:

(a) Insert the following language after “Last Monday in May (Memorial Day)”: “June 19 (Juneteenth National Independence Day)”

(b) After the first sentence, insert the following language:
“Any national holidays listed in this subsection must be observed on the specific date unless observed on another date by the federal government.”

(c) In the second sentence, insert “local” before “holiday”.

SECTION 3. Title 1 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 11 is amended by adding section 200/ that reads as follows:

“§200/. Juneteenth National Independence Day

(a) The Commissioner of the Department of Education shall reproduce and disseminate information on the significance of the Juneteenth National Independence Day to all public, private and parochial schools.

(b) The Commissioner of Education shall also organize and publicize events throughout public schools for the celebration of the Juneteenth National Independence Day.

BILL SUMMARY

The bill amends title 1 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 11, section 171(a) by enacting The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act to declare June 19 a legal holiday in the Virgin Islands, and allowing all national holidays recognized in the Virgin Islands to be observed on the specific date or the date observed by the federal government.

BR23-0140/GC/January 18, 2023/Updated/AA

[..\\..\\..\\AMENDS\\35th Legislature\\BOLOQUES, JR, ANGEL A\\Amendment 35-225\\35-225-DRAFTED ON YELLOW.docx](#)