

LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
CERTIFICATE OF ENACTMENT
NOTWITHSTANDING THE GOVERNOR'S VETO

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT, Bill No. 36-0344 - An act providing an appropriation to the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works for the repair, renovation, or removal of the pedestrian bridge located in the vicinity of the Western Cemetery and the former Addelita Cancryn Junior High School; amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code, section 494 regarding the allotment to the University of the Virgin Islands; amending Act No. 9035 regarding various appropriations; amending Act No. 9113 regarding firearms and ammunition; amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 27, section 706 regarding certain retired members re-entering government service and for other purposes by the Thirty-Sixth Legislature of the Virgin Islands at its regular session held on August 26, 2026, (a copy of which is attached hereto) and vetoed by the Governor on September 4, 2026, was duly enacted by override by the Thirty-Sixth Legislature at its regular session held on September 25, 2026, pursuant to section 9(d) of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, 48 U.S.C. §1575 (d).

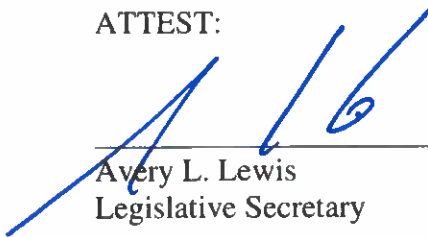
DATED: 9/25/2026





Milton E. Potter
President

ATTEST:


Avery L. Lewis
Legislative Secretary

OVERRIDDEN
DATE: 09/25/2026

ACT NO. 9 1 2 8

BILL NO. 36-0344

VETOED

SEP 04 2026

{GOVERNOR

THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2026

An act providing an appropriation to the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works for the repair, renovation, or removal of the pedestrian bridge located in the vicinity of the Western Cemetery and the former Addelita Cancryn Junior High School; amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code, section 494 regarding the allotment to the University of the Virgin Islands; amending Act No. 9035 regarding various appropriations; amending Act No. 9113 regarding firearms and ammunition; amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 27, section 706 regarding certain retired members re-entering government service and for other purposes

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. (a) The sum of \$300,000 is appropriated from the St. Thomas Capital Improvement Fund to the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, for repair, renovation, or removal of the pedestrian bridge on Veterans Drive in the vicinity of the Western Cemetery and the former Addelita Cancryn Junior High School.

(b) The sum appropriated in subsection (a) remains available until expended.

SECTION 2. Title 17 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 35, section 494 is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and adding subsection (b):

“(b) The Office of Management and Budget shall make four equal allotments of the annual appropriation to be disbursed quarterly by the Department of Finance, with disbursements not later than October 30th, December 30th, March 30th, and June 30th of each fiscal year.”

SECTION 3. Act No. 9035 (Bill No. 36-0174), section 1 is amended as follows:

(a) in C/CNTR MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS FY 2026, in line-item DPNR FRENCHTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM, strike “FRENCHTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM” and insert “FRENCHTOWN CIVIC ORGANIZATION, INC.”; and

(b) in GENERAL FUND-NL, in line-item M1242 CAROLINE ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP, strike "CAROLINE ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP" and insert "CAROLINE FELICIA ADAMS AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP".

SECTION 4. (a) Act No. 9113 (Bill No. 36-0144) section 3, is amended as follows:

(1) in internal section 451, strike paragraph (q) and insert "(q) 'Large-capacity magazine' means any magazine, belt, box, drum, tube, feed strip, or other ammunition feeding device that has a capacity of holding, or can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 17 rounds of ammunition for a handgun or more than 30 rounds ammunition for longarm firearms.

"'Large-capacity ammunition magazine' does not include:

(A) Any ammunition feeding device that is standard capacity, manufactured by the original firearm manufacturer as standard equipment for, shipped with, or designed to operate natively within the specific model of a semi-automatic handgun, regardless of capacity.

(B) Any ammunition feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than 17 rounds of ammunition.

(C) An attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.

(D) A device manufactured solely for use with an antique firearm or a certified curio or relic.

(E) Any ammunition feeding device possessed by an officer, agent, or employee of the Virgin Islands or the United States, or any member of the Armed Forces of the United States, while on duty and acting within the scope of their official duties."

(2) in internal section 452(e), strike the language after "firearm" in the first instance and insert "with a magazine that holds more than 17 rounds prior to the effective date of this act may continue to own and possess the magazine and shall notify the VIPD of the magazine within 60 days of the effective date of this act. If the magazine becomes lost, damaged, broken or inoperable, the owner may replace the device with an identical component produced by the original equipment manufacturer (OEM). The replacement device must feature the exact same structural dimensions and round capacity as the original component supplied with the firearm at the time of manufacture.";

(3) in internal section 453, strike subsections "(i)(6), (i)(8) and (j)"; and insert the following new items (3) and (4): "(3) the person is a fisherman, as defined in title 12 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 9A, section 302(11) and transports the firearm for protection in a vessel, as defined in in title 12 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 9A, section 302(23) in territorial waters;

(4) in internal section 454(a):

(a) in subsection (1), strike "21" and insert "18";

(b) strike subsection (8); at the end of subsection (10)(B) insert "or";

(c) strike subsection (10)(C);

(d) in subsection 11(A), strike all language after the second instance of "firearms" and insert, "training instructor and a copy of the certification of firearms safety instructor shall be kept on file by the VIPD;"

(5) in internal section 455, subsection (a), after "commissioner" insert "that must include" and in subsection (c)(4), strike "(12)" and insert "(11)";

(6) in internal section 456(d)(4), after the period insert, "Failure to provide the applicant with a written notice of denial within the prescribed time limit will result in the immediate approval and issuance of a Virgin Islands Firearm License.";

(7) in internal section 457(b), designate the existing subsection "(2)" as subsection "(3)" and insert the following new subsection (2):

"(2) a list of all firearms registered to the licensee, including, for each firearm, the caliber, make, model, manufacturer's identification number, serial number, and any other identifying marks on the firearm.";

(8) in internal section 458, subsections (a) and (c)(1), strike "applicant" and insert "licensee", in subsection (b), strike "renew" and insert "reinstate";

(9) in internal section 459, insert the following new paragraph (e):

"(e) No licensed firearm owner under this chapter shall be denied the right to register or possess a handgun solely because the handgun features or uses a magazine shipped as the manufacturer's standard operating specification for that firearm model."

(10) in internal section 489a(e), strike "the" before "authorize";

(11) in internal section 492, insert the following new subsection (c), redesignate the remaining subsections accordingly and strike "only" in the redesignated internal section 492(d):

"(c) A person who holds a valid Virgin Islands Firearms License may possess a firearm suppressor if:

(1) the firearm suppressor is lawfully possessed under federal law;

(2) the person has registered the firearm suppressor with the VIPD in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner;

(3) the firearm suppressor is possessed only within the licensee's residence, business or within the confines of a licensed gun range; and

(4) the firearm suppressor is transported only directly between the licensee's residence or business and a licensed gun range, unloaded, secured in a lockbox, and separate from any ammunition.”;

(5) Renumber the existing subsections accordingly and add the following new subsection (g):

“(g) Nothing in this section authorizes the carrying of a firearm suppressor in public, the use of a firearm suppressor during the commission of any crime, or the possession, receipt, purchase, sale, importation, transfer, manufacture, transportation, carrying, or use of a bump stock or conversion kit except as expressly permitted in this section.”;

(12) in subsection (d) strike, “Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms” and insert “Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.”

(13) Strike “silencer” and insert “suppressor” wherever it appears in the act.”

SECTION 5. Title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 89, subchapter I, section 2494a, subsection (4) is amended by striking “Committee on Housing Parks and Recreation” and inserting “the appropriate legislative committee of jurisdiction” wherever it appears.

SECTION 6. Act No. 8898, section 2, is amended by striking “2026” and inserting “2028”.

SECTION 7. Act No. 7321 is amended by inserting “Virgin Islands” before “veterans” where it appears in the short title and in section 1.

SECTION 8. Title 2 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 3, section 41 is amended by striking “administrative and clerical” and inserting “full-time”.

SECTION 9. (a) Title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 27, section 706 is amended as follows:

- (1) By repealing subsection (c);
- (2) In subsection (d) by striking “Notwithstanding subsection (c),”; and
- (3) In subsection (e) by striking “Notwithstanding subsection (c),”.

(b) Title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 28A, section 755 is amended as follows:

- (1) By repealing subsection (c);
- (2) In subsection (d) by striking "Notwithstanding subsection (c),";
- (3) In subsection (d) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting:

"(3) Except for a retired member who re-enters government service as a nurse, teacher, or police officer, a retired member may not re-enter government service earlier than nine months after the date of the member's retirement."; and

- (4) In subsection (e) by striking "Notwithstanding subsection (c),".

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on August 26, 2026.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 26 day of August, A.D., 2026.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Milton E. Potter".

Milton E. Potter
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ivory L. Lewis".

Ivory L. Lewis
Secretary

LEGISLATURE OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

36th Legislature, THE HONORABLE SENATOR AVERY LEWIS

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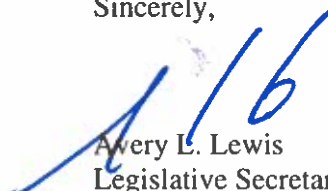
Chairperson	Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, Consumer Protection
Vice Chair	Committee on Education and Workforce Development
Member	Committee on Rules & Judiciary
	Committee on Homeland Security, Justice and Public Safety

September 28, 2026

The Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr.
Governor of the Virgin Islands
Office of the Governor
No. 20-21 Kongens Gade
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802
Dear Governor Bryan:

During its Regular Session on September 25, 2026, the Thirty-Sixth Legislature of the Virgin Islands overrode your veto of Bill No. 36-0344.

Sincerely,



Avery L. Lewis
Legislative Secretary