

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO BILL NO. 31-0173
Offered by Senator Samuel Sanes

Bill No. 31-0173, is amended after "SECTION 1." by striking the existing language and by inserting the following language in its stead:

"SECTION 1. Title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 1, §8b is amended in the following instances:

1. In subsection (a), by the phrase "Governor of the Virgin Islands" and by inserting in lieu thereof "Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs"; and
2. By striking subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

"(c) (1) *Burial benefits.* The benefits provided by subsection (a) of this section shall be provided for the burial of:

(A) those veterans who were domiciliaries of the Virgin Islands at the time of death, who entered the armed services in the Virgin Islands;

(B) those veterans who were domiciliaries of the Virgin Islands at the time of death, who entered the armed services in another jurisdiction while temporarily residing in that jurisdiction; and

(C) those veterans who were born in the Virgin Islands but domiciled outside of the Virgin Islands at the time of death, if such a veteran is not receiving veterans' burial benefits from the veteran's place of domicile or another jurisdiction is are going to be buried in the Virgin Islands.

- (2) *Burial in Virgin Islands cemeteries.*

(A)(i) Burial in all Virgin Islands cemeteries, with spaces set aside for veterans, must be made available to all members of the Armed Forces and veterans discharged under conditions other than dishonorable who completed the required periods of service, as well as one dependent, and under certain conditions an unmarried adult child.

(ii) Also eligible are members of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard Reserves and the Army and Air Force National Guard with 20 years of qualifying service, or who die while on active duty for training, active duty, or territorial active duty, as well as members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps of the Army, Navy or Air Force who die on active duty for training.

(B) Only veterans who were bona fide residents of the Virgin Islands at the time they were either drafted or enlisted, whether residing in the Territory or attending college, are eligible for burial in the burial site set aside for veterans.

Amendment No. 31-397/ September 8, 2015/ YLT