COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERAN AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

05/10/2023-REPORTED OUT TO THE FLOOR 04/25/2023-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 35-0062

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

March 24, 2023

A Resolution honoring and commending Gregory Hodge, b/k/a DJ Avalanche for his outstanding contributions as a disk jockey, radio talk show host, music producer, and entertainer and presenting to him the Official Key to the Virgin Islands

PROPOSED BY: Senators Javan E. James, Sr. and Angel L. Bolques, Jr.,

and Ray Fonseca

Co-sponsor: Marvin A. Blyden

WHEREAS, Gregory Hodge best known to many as "The Caribbeans Hottest DJ—DJ

- 2 Avalanche", is a native US Virgin Islander and is known for having a global impact with his
- 3 musical talents; and
- WHEREAS, Gregory Hodge, born July 12, 1979, on St. Thomas, is the son of Deadrick
- 5 Hodge of Tortola and Maria Edwards of Antigua; and
- WHEREAS, he developed a love for music at a very young age while attending the Lew
- 7 Muckle Elementary School on the island of St. Croix; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, this connection with music continued to grow through his teenage years
- 9 when he first made efforts to become a disc jockey; and
- WHEREAS, after graduating from the St. Joseph High School on St. Croix, he began
- making music a full-time job, and also created a line of unique soca, reggae, and hip-hop mixed
- tapes and songs; and

1	WHEREAS, those efforts grew from a passion to a career, and now a legacy; and
2	WHEREAS, DJ Avalanche became one of the most sought-after disc jockeys in the
3	Caribbean in 2003, traveling throughout the world and earned his reputation as the
4	"Caribbean's Hottest DJ" when he won Heineken's first DJ competition; and
5	WHEREAS, in 2005, DJ Avalanche ventured into the world of broadcasting, and hosted
6	his own radio program "The DJ Avalanche Radio Show," which won multiple awards
7	including the Best of the Virgin Islands over 10 times, and the Addy Awards to name a few
8	and
9	WHEREAS, DJ Avalanche's radio program was aired on major Caribbean stations
.0	including 105 Jamz (WVJZ) and 103.5 The Reef (WAXJ) for over the course of the pas
.1	decade; and
.2	WHEREAS, DJ Avalanche has performed and hosted at some of the Caribbean's bigges
.3	parties, and festivals throughout the world; and
.4	WHEREAS, in 2018 and 2019, he participated in the world's largest Caribbean Festiva
.5	at Sea, the Uber Soca Cruise Festival where he was titled and awarded as the Festival's bes
.6	DJ for both years; and
.7	WHEREAS, DJ Avalanche has produced several chart-topping songs and rhythms
.8	featuring some of the Caribbean's biggest stars, such as Machel Montano, Patrice Roberts
.9	Problem Child, Bunji Garlin, the most recent being Grenada's 2022 Road March Title for the
20	song "High" featuring Jab King, St. Croix's 2023 Groovy Soca Monarch for "A List" featuring
1	Pumpa, and Trinidad's 2023 Road March for "Hard Fete" featuring Bunji Garlin; and
2	WHEREAS, he has toured with many of the top artists from the Caribbean, North
23	America, and Europe; and
24	WHEREAS, DJ Avalanche has also been featured on national and Caribbean television
:5	programs including BET's College Hill and Tempo Television's Pull Up Selecta; and

1	WHEREAS, during the pandemic, DJ Avalanche used his online platforms and
2	worldwide fanbase of several thousands to collaborate with the Virgin Islands Department of
3	Tourism, Division of Festivals, in showcasing and providing a safe alternative to commemorate
4	the music and culture of the Virgin Islands by presenting "A Virtual Carnival" and a series of
5	online events entitled "HomeWuk," which was featured in travel magazines promoting the
6	Virgin Islands to the world; and
7	WHEREAS, the online program generated hundreds of thousands of views that helped
8	attract visitors to the Territory at the close of the pandemic; and
9	WHEREAS, the achievements of DJ Avalanche are truly remarkable and a reflection of
0	a talent who is rightfully dubbed "The Caribbean's Hottest DJ"; Now, Therefore,
1	Be it resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:
2	SECTION 1. In recognition and commemoration of his outstanding achievements in the
3	music and entertainment industries, the Governor and the President of the Legislature, or the
4	President of the Legislature designee, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, shall present
5	the Official Key to the Virgin Islands to Mr. Gregory Hodge, "DJ Avalanche".
6	SECTION 2. In recognition and appreciation of his contributions to the people of the
7	Virgin Islands, the President of the Legislature or the President's designee shall prepare a
8	perma plaque copy of this resolution and present it to Mr. Gregory Hodge, "DJ Avalanche", at
9	an appropriate ceremony.
0	BILL SUMMARY
1	This bill is to commend Gregory Hodge for his contributions to the entertainment and
2	music industries and to present him with the Official Key to the Virgin Islands at an appropriate
2	ceremony

24 BR23-0416/March 7, 2023/LMW