

**TESTIMONY OF KEVIN MCCURDY
COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS, AND FINANCE
BILL NO. 36-0025
JUNE 12, 2025**

GOOD MORNING, FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS; VICE CHAIRMAN, SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN; OTHER COMMITTEE AND NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THIS TERRITORY LISTENING AND VIEWING TODAY.

I AM MAURICE WELL, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF KEVIN MCCURDY, COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY ON BILL NO. 36-0025, AN ACT APPROPRIATING \$90,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND OF THE TREASURY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO PURCHASE AN ALL-IN-ONE MOBILE HEALTH, WELLNESS, AND PERSONAL SAFETY DEVICES FOR VIRGIN ISLANDS SENIOR CITIZENS AND OTHER VULNERABLE RESIDENTS, AND PAY THE ANNUAL SERVICE ASSOCIATED WITH MAINTENANCE OF THE DEVICES.

WHILE THE PROPOSED APPROPRIATION OF \$90,000 MAY APPEAR MINIMAL IN ISOLATION, IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THE BROADER FISCAL IMPACT OF CONTINUALLY DRAWING FROM THE GENERAL FUND. WE MUST EXERCISE DISCIPLINE IN MANAGING THIS FUND, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THAT SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS WERE NECESSARY TO BALANCE THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET THIS FISCAL YEAR. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, EVEN IN SMALL

**TESTIMONY OF KEVIN MCCURDY
COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS, AND FINANCE
BILL NO. 36-0025
JUNE 12, 2025**

AMOUNTS RISK OVER-OBLIGATING THE FUND AND UNDERMINING OUR ABILITY TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL STABILITY MOVING FORWARD.

FOR THESE REASONS, WE ARE NOT IN SUPPORT OF THIS BILL AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED, WHICH SEEKS TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM THE GENERAL FUND. HOWEVER, SHOULD A MORE APPROPRIATE AND SUSTAINABLE FUNDING SOURCE BE IDENTIFIED, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER OUR POSITION.

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE THIS TESTIMONY