

**BILL NO. 35-0292**

**Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands**

**June 20, 2024**

An Act to renew and extend the Governor's Executive Order and Proclamation declaring the State of Energy Emergency in the Virgin Islands to avert an energy crisis

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**PROPOSED BY:** Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr., by Request of the Governor

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1       **WHEREAS**, Title 23, Virgin Islands Code, section 1005(a), vests the responsibility for  
2 meeting the dangers to the Territory of the Virgin Islands and its people presented by  
3 emergencies or major disasters in the Governor of the Virgin Islands; and

4       **WHEREAS**, for months leading up to April 2024, the inability of independent  
5 government agencies to pay the Water and Power Authority timely for its services impacted  
6 the Authority's ability to pay its critical vendors, resulting in curtailing of power generation;  
7 and

8       **WHEREAS**, on April 22, 2024, the Governor issued Executive Order 537-2024,  
9 declaring a State of Emergency to avert an emergency crisis in the Virgin Islands; and

10       **WHEREAS**, in order to protect the lives and property of the residents of the Territory,  
11 the Governor found it necessary to renew and extend the State of Emergency on May 22, 2024,  
12 for an additional 30 days, through June 21, 2024 in Executive Order 537a-2024; and

