

s/AWCJR

**AMENDMENT TO BILL NO. 35-0133
Offered by Senator Angel L. Bolques, Jr.**

Bill No. 35-0133, section 1, internal section 190gg is amended in the following instances:

(a) In subsection (a), strike all the language after “including” and insert the following language:

“marine shipping, logistics, sciences, or engineering and mechanics; maritime law, economics, technology, tourism and recreation, or safety and security; environmental maritime studies; diving and underwater technology; yachting and recreational boating; fishing and aquaculture; mariculture; port management; naval architecture; and other related disciplines.”

(b) In subsection (b), insert “and repayment” after “disbursement”.

(c) Strike subsection (f) in its entirety and insert a new subsection (f) to read as follows:

“(f) (1) A scholarship recipient must execute a contract with the Board of Education agreeing to return to the Virgin Islands not later than 90 days after completion of the course of study to work in the maritime industry or a related field for as many years or portion thereof as the person pursued education and training under the scholarship.

(2) A scholarship recipient who diligently attempts to gain employment in the Virgin Islands maritime industry or a related field for a period of not less than two years without success, may petition the Board of Education for a review of their employment obligation and for a release from the contract. The Board shall evaluate each petition on a case-by-case basis and shall consider the scholarship recipient’s efforts and the employment market in the maritime industry or related field at the time the petition is filed.

(3) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a student who fails to comply with the requirements in paragraph (1) is liable to the Government of the Virgin Islands for the amount of the scholarship.”

Amendment No. 35-538/November 8, 2023/GC/Revised January 31, 2024/GC