

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERAN
AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

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, and entertainer and presenting to him the Official Key to the Virgin Islands

PROPOSED BY: Senator Javan E. James, Sr.

1 **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

4 **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

6 **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 those efforts grew from a passion, to career,
10 and now a legacy; and

11 **WHEREAS**, after graduating from the St. Joseph’s High School on St. Croix, he began
12 making music a full-time job, and also created a line of unique Soca, Reggae, and Hip-hop
13 mixed tapes and songs; and

1 **WHEREAS**, DJ Avalanche became one of the most sought-after disc jockeys in the
2 Caribbean traveling throughout the world and earned his reputation as the “Caribbean’s Hottest
3 DJ” when he won Heineken’s first DJ competition in 2003; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 2005, DJ Avalanche ventured into the world of broadcasting, and he
5 continues to host his own radio program “The DJ Avalanche Radio Show” which has won
6 multiple awards including the Best of the Virgin Islands over 10 times, and the Addy Awards
7 to name a few; and

8 **WHEREAS**, DJ Avalanche’s radio program has been aired on major Caribbean Stations,
9 including 105 Jamz (WVJZ) and 103.5 The Reef (WAXJ) for over the course of the past
10 decade; and

11 **WHEREAS**, DJ Avalanche has performed and hosted at some of the Caribbean’s biggest
12 parties, and festivals throughout the world; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in 2018 and 2019, he participated in the world’s largest Caribbean Festival
14 at Sea, the Uber Soca Cruise Festival where he was titled and awarded as the Festival’s best
15 DJ for both years; and

16 **WHEREAS**, DJ Avalanche has produced several chart-topping songs and rhythms
17 featuring some of the Caribbean’s biggest stars, such as Machel Montano, Patrice Roberts,
18 Problem Child, Bunji Garlin, most recent being Grenada’s 2022 Road March Title for the song
19 “High” featuring Jab King, St. Croix’s 2023 Groovy Soca Monarch for “A List” featuring
20 Pumpa, and Trinidad’s 2023 Road March for “Hard Fete” featuring Bunji Garlin; and

21 **WHEREAS**, and he has toured with many of the top artists from the Caribbean, North
22 America, and Europe; and

23 **WHEREAS**, DJ Avalanche has also been featured on national and Caribbean Television
24 programs including BET’s College Hill and Tempo Television’s Pull Up Selecta; and

25 **WHEREAS**, during the pandemic, DJ Avalanche used his online platforms and
26 worldwide fanbase of several thousands to collaborate with the Virgin Islands Department of

1 Tourism, Division of Festivals in showcasing and providing a safe alternative to commemorate
2 the music and culture of the Virgin Islands by presenting “A Virtual Carnival” and a series of
3 online events entitled “HomeWuk” which was featured in Travel magazines promoting the
4 Virgin Islands to the world; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the online program generated hundreds of thousands of views that helped
6 attract visitors to the territory at the close of the pandemic; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the achievements of DJ Avalanche are truly remarkable and a reflection of
8 a talent who is rightfully dubbed “The Caribbean’s Hottest DJ”, Now, Therefore,

9 ***Be it resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:***

10 **SECTION 1.** In recognition and commemoration of his outstanding achievements in the
11 music and entertainment industries, the Governor and the President of the Legislature, or the
12 President’s designee, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, shall present the Official
13 Key to the Virgin Islands to Mr. Gregory Hodge, “DJ Avalanche”.

14 **SECTION 2.** In recognition and appreciation of his contributions to the people of the
15 Virgin Islands, the President of the Legislature or the President’s designee shall prepare a
16 perma plaque copy of this act and present it to Mr. Gregory Hodge, “DJ Avalanche”, at an
17 appropriate ceremony.

18 **BILL SUMMARY**

19 This bill is to commend Gregory Hodge for his contributions to the entertainment and
20 music industries and to present him with the Official Key to the Virgin Islands at an appropriate
21 ceremony.

22 **BR23-0416/March 7, 2023/LMW**