

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
OPERATIONS, VETERANS AFFAIRS,  
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

**BILL NO. 35-0006**

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

**January 31, 2023**

An Act honoring and commending former Senator George E. Goodwin for his many years of expansive contributions to the Virgin Islands community as a whole, through his roles in various areas of service to the territory as well as advocacy for social justice for underserved people in the Virgin Islands; to rename the Cricket Field located on Parcel H of Tract 1, Estate Nazareth, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands in his honor; and to award former Senator George E. Goodwin the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor; and for other related purposes

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**PROPOSED BY:** Senator Carla J. Joseph

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1           **WHEREAS**, George E. Goodwin was born on September 15, 1941, in the Village of  
2   Liberta in Antigua, West Indies to James E. Goodwin and Hilda G. Matthew;

3           **WHEREAS**, he graduated from Antigua Boys Grammar School and continued his  
4   education at the then College of the Virgin Islands where in 1968, he received his A.A. degree  
5   in Hotel Management;

6           **WHEREAS**, He also studied at Monmouth University and at George Washington  
7   University. Goodwin has an extensive background in management, accounting, and insurance;

8           **WHEREAS**, from 1968 to 1979, George E. Goodwin served as an accountant at the  
9   Departments of Finance and Labor and subsequently became the Department of Labor's

1 Director of Comprehensive Employment and Training Administration and Business  
2 Administration (CETA);

3 **WHEREAS**, George E. Goodwin left CETA in 1982 to become Special Assistant to  
4 Congressman Ron deLugo, and in 1984, Mr. Goodwin left the Congressman's Office and  
5 became the Director of the Virgin Islands Processing Center (BlueCross/Blue Shield), and from  
6 there he became the Director of Marketing/Caribbean Region;

7 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Goodwin was owner and operator of Goodwin's Bookkeeping Service,  
8 established in 1971, and an active member of social organizations such as the Caribbean  
9 Development Correlation the American Caribbean Alliance Democratic Club, Virgin Islands  
10 Cricket Association, Virgin Islands Port Authority Board, Governor's Citizen Advisory  
11 Council, Legal Services Board of Directors and the Association of Caribbean Organizations,  
12 among others;

13 **WHEREAS**, in 1991 Governor Alexander Farrelly appointed George E. Goodwin as  
14 Administrator of the Government Employee's Retirement System;

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1993 George E. Goodwin was sworn in as a Senator of the 20<sup>th</sup>  
16 Legislature of the Virgin Islands and served a second term in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislature;

17 **WHEREAS**, from January 1997 to July 1998, Mr. Goodwin served as Special Assistant  
18 with then Delegate to Congress, The Honorable Donna Christensen;

19 **WHEREAS**, George E. Goodwin's name is identified with numerous pieces of  
20 legislation and the Alien Interest Movement, which worked to bring about social justice in the  
21 areas of education and employment for non-immigrants also referred to as aliens;

22 **WHEREAS**, the Alien Interest Movement was the catalyst for the June 26, 1970  
23 landmark declarative judgement rendered by District Court Judge Almeric Leander Christian in  
24 the case of *Hosier vs. Evans*, 314 F.Supp. 316 (D.V.I. 1970), Judge Christian ruled that non-  
25 immigrant children were entitled to attend public schools in the Virgin Islands;

1           **WHEREAS**, former Senator Goodwin was married to the late Bernice Pickering, and is  
2 the father of six children: Gregory, Maureen, Bernard Neil, Juliet, and Alex. Now, Therefore,  
3 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:*

4           **SECTION 1.** (a) The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the  
5 Virgin Islands, honors and commends former Senator George E. Goodwin for his many years  
6 of expansive contributions to the Virgin Islands community as a whole, through his roles in  
7 various areas of service to the territory as well as advocacy for social justice for underserved  
8 people, and renames the Cricket Field located on Parcel H of Tract 1, Estate Nazareth, St.  
9 Thomas, Virgin Islands, O.L.G. Map No. D9-8847-T014, consisting of 2.296 U.S. acres more  
10 or less, “George E. Goodwin Cricket Field” in his honor.

11           (b) The Governor of the Virgin Islands shall cause to be prepared a distinctive sign  
12 bearing the inscription “George E. Goodwin Cricket Field”, and the Governor shall cause the  
13 sign to be affixed in a conspicuous place at the field.

14           **SECTION 2.** Pursuant to title 1 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 7, section 103, George E.  
15 Goodwin is awarded the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor, cast in gold, for his outstanding public  
16 service.

17           **SECTION 3.** The President of the Legislature, or the President's designee, shall prepare  
18 and present a perma plaque copy of this Act and the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor for Public  
19 Service to George E. Goodwin, or his designee, at an appropriate ceremony.

### **BILL SUMMARY**

21           This bill honors and commends former Senator George E. Goodwin for his many years  
22 of expansive contributions to the Virgin Islands community as a whole, through his roles in  
23 various areas of service to the territory as well as advocacy for social justice for underserved  
24 people in the Virgin Islands, renames the Cricket Field located on Parcel H of Tract 1, Estate

- 1 Nazareth, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands in his honor and awards him the Virgin Islands Medal of
- 2 Honor.
- 3 **BR23-0108/January 17, 2023/**