

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

RE: Act Honoring and Commending Ms. Claire Roker

Good day Senator Carla Joseph, Chairman of the 35th Legislature's Committee on Government Operations, Veteran affairs and Consumer protection, committee members, other members of the 35th Legislature, and the listening and viewing audience.

I am Jose Raul Carillo, the Chairman of the Board for the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts (VICA). I stand before you today to offer my wholehearted support for the act that seeks to honor Claire Roker for her dedicated service to the Virgin Islands community by naming the visitor's center at the Ann Abramson Marine Facility the Claire Roker Visitor's Center. This act of recognition is not only well-deserved but also serves as a testament to the profound impact Ms. Roker has had on our community.

Claire Roker has been a pillar of strength and an exemplary role model in our community. Her tireless efforts in community service, advocacy, and leadership have significantly contributed to the betterment of the Virgin Islands. She has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all residents through various initiatives and programs that address critical needs.

Ms. Roker has shown unwavering dedication in her roles as a board member and Vice Chair of the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts (VICA). Her leadership and strategic vision have been instrumental in guiding the organization towards achieving its mission of supporting and uplifting the local community. Over the years, she has volunteered countless hours, spearheaded numerous community projects, and provided mentorship to many individuals. Her leadership in organizing community events, fundraising for local causes, and advocating for social justice has left an indelible mark on the Virgin Islands.

Naming the visitor's center at the Ann Abramson Marine facility to the Claire Roker Visitor's Center is a fitting tribute to a woman who has given so much of herself to this community. This act of recognition will not only honor Ms. Roker's legacy but also serve as an inspiration for future generations. It will stand as a reminder of the power of selfless service and the positive impact one individual can have on their community.

The Claire Roker Visitor's Center will continue to serve as a hub for visitors and residents alike, fostering a sense of community and pride. It will embody the spirit of welcome, warmth, and dedication that Claire Roker has exemplified throughout her life. This renaming will ensure that her legacy endures, encouraging others to follow in her footsteps and contribute to the well-being of the Virgin Islands.

In conclusion, I urge you to pass this act to honor Claire Roker for her unwavering dedication and service to our community. Let us recognize her contributions and ensure that her legacy lives on through the Claire Roker Visitor's Center. This is a meaningful and deserving tribute to a remarkable individual who has truly made a difference in the lives of many.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I stand by for any questions.