

Hon. James A. O’Bryan, Jr.
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Statement on Bill No. 35-0316

Hon. Carla J. Joseph and members of the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection.

I am James A. O’Bryan, Jr. I retired from Government service after 42 years of local and federal service, which includes membership in the 16th Legislature of the Virgin Islands.

Bill No. 35-0316 purpose is to honor and commend Mrs. Juel Turnbull Rhymer-Molloy for her years of dedicated service and contributions to the Territory.

I welcome and I am honored to appear here today to lend my full support to the passage of this measure. I have been an eyewitness to Mrs. Molloy’s work within this community throughout my professional career.

It started when I represented Lt. Governor Henry A. Millin on the Community Action Board.

I was Director of Youth Promotion and Delinquency Prevent during her commissionship of Human Service in

the Alexander Farrelly Administration. I later served as press secretary to Gov. Farrelly.

I was St. Thomas/Water Island Administrator, Assistant to the Governor for Public Affairs and Policy Initiative and Director of Public Relations for Governor Charles W. Turnbull when Mrs. Molloy served as his Chief of Staff. In these positions, I worked closely with Mrs. Molloy coordinating government operations.

Ladies and Gentlemen let me state on the record that you meet today to honor one of the great public servants of our generation.

In this process, you recognize her sincerity, her honesty, her intellect, her commitment to the public service, and her integrity.

I attest to her commitment to the poor, the elderly, the youth, and those who truly need government help. I could take hours to witness this good ladies many professional achievements. Let me just say there have been many crisis averted, many successful initiatives achieved under her direction. I have witnessed Governors seek her advice and guidance during times of uncertainty and doubt. They knew she gave honest, well-considered, and researched advice. You honor a leader and fierce advocates of the helpless, hungry, and hopeless.

It is fitting that Mrs. Molloy's service be recognized in the manner this bill provides and I urge swift passage of this proposed legislation.