

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS
AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

11/22/2024-REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

11/20/2024-REASSIGNED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS AND HUMAN SERVICES

BILL NO. 35-0408

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

November 19, 2024

An Act requiring the Department of Health and the Department of Planning and Natural Resources to develop and administer a Territorial Regulated Medical Waste Management Plan including the requisite regulations

PROPOSED BY: Senator Donna A. Frett-Gregory

1 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:*

2 **SECTION 1 .** (a). The Commissioners of the Departments of Health and Planning and
3 Natural Resources shall develop a Territorial Regulated Medical Waste Management Plan
4 (“Medical Waste Plan”).

5 (b) The Medical Waste Plan must contain regulations on:

6 (1) packaging, labeling and marking requirements of medical waste;

7 (2) storage of medical waste;

8 (3) treatment, destruction or disposal of medical waste;

9 (4) tracking, recordkeeping, reporting of medical waste;

10 (5) on-site treatment and development of contingency plans;

1 (6) proposed fees on medical waste generators, storage facilities, disposers,
2 treatment facilities, waste sharps collection programs; and

3 (7) transportation of medical waste.

4 (c) The Environmental Protection Agency and the Solid Waste Division of the Virgin
5 Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources is responsible for developing and
6 enforcing regulations for medical waste management, transportation and disposal.

7 (d) Nothing in this Act infringes on the responsibilities of the United States Department
8 of Labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration or the Virgin Islands Division of
9 Occupational Safety and Health to regulate several aspects of medical waste, including
10 management of sharps containers, requirements for containers that hold or store medical waste,
11 labeling of medical waste bags and containers, and employee training.

12 **SECTION 2.** The Commissioners of the Virgin Islands Departments of Health and
13 Planning and Natural Resources shall submit the Medical Waste Plan to the Legislature of the
14 Virgin Islands not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

15 **BILL SUMMARY**

16 This bill requires the Virgin Islands Departments of Health and Planning and Natural
17 Resources to develop and administer a Territorial Regulated Medical Waste Management Plan
18 including the requisite regulations.

19 **BR23-0625/October 25, 2024/CBM**