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U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism
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February 9, 2026

The Honorable Senator Avery Lewis
Thirty (36th) Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Capitol Building
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802

**Re: Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection
Bill No. 36-0226: Honoring Janet Brow-Phillips**

Good morning, Chairman of the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection, the Honorable Senator Avery L. Lewis; distinguished members of the Committee; Senators of the 36th Legislature of the United States Virgin Islands; legislative staff; members of the media; and the listening and viewing public.

Pursuant to your invitation, on behalf of the Department of Tourism, I am pleased to provide testimony regarding Bill No. 36-0226, honoring and commending Mrs. Janet Brow Phillips for her outstanding achievements and significant contributions to the fields of education and culinary arts within the Virgin Islands community.

The strength of our tourism product is deeply rooted in the people who preserve, teach, and celebrate our culture. Mrs. Brow Phillips' work at the intersection of education and culinary arts reflects a lifelong commitment to sharing knowledge, developing talent, and ensuring that our culinary traditions are passed on to future generations. By nurturing skills, inspiring excellence, and promoting the value of local cuisine, she has helped to strengthen both our community and the cultural experiences that distinguish the Virgin Islands.

Our culinary heritage is an essential part of our identity and a meaningful driver of our destination's appeal. Educators and mentors like Mrs. Brow Phillips play a critical role in sustaining this legacy while preparing the next generation to contribute to our economy and cultural vitality.

It is an honor to support the recognition of Mrs. Janet Brow Phillips, and we thank her for her dedication to education, her passion for the culinary arts, and her lasting impact on the people and culture of the Virgin Islands.