## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

## BILL NO. 36-0148

## Thirty-Sixth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

**August 26, 2025** 

An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 16, section 274 by mandating that the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission implement an electronic payment system

PROPOSED BY: Senator Kurt A. Vialet

transactions for both drivers and the commission;

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- WHEREAS, the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission currently oversees and regulates 1 the operation of taxicabs throughout the Virgin Islands; 2 WHEREAS, the modernization of transportation services is essential to ensuring, 3 4 reliable, efficient, and convenient service for residents and visitors; WHEREAS, advances in financial technology have made electronic monetary payment 5 6 systems a secure, efficient, and convenient method for conducting transactions; 7 WHEREAS, the ability to pay for taxicab services electronically provides added convenience for consumers, particularly tourists, who may not carry cash; 8 9 WHEREAS, electronic payments enhance accountability and transparency in financial
- WHEREAS, requiring the Taxicab Commission to implement an electronic monetary payment system aligns the Virgin Islands with industry standards across the United States and internationally; and

1	WHEREAS,	the	modernization	of	payment	methods	in	the	transportation	sector	will

- 2 improve the territory's reputation as a progressive, visitor-friendly destination; Now, Therefore,
- 3 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:
- 4 SECTION 1. Title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 16, section 274 is amended by re-
- 5 designating subsections (i) and (j) as (j) and (k), respectively, and by adding the following new
- 6 subsection (i):
- 7 "(i) The Commission shall establish and operate an electronic monetary payment system
- 8 and establish conditions and requirements for its use."
- 9 **SECTION 2**. This act becomes effective 120 days after enactment.

## 10 <u>BILL SUMMARY</u>

- This bill provides that the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission shall implement an
- 12 electronic payment system.
- 13 BR25-0782/August 25, 2025/SLR