

**TESTIMONY OF KEVIN MCCURDY
COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
APRIL 8, 2026**

Good Morning, Chairman Blyden, esteemed members of the Committee, and those listening and viewing. My name is Clarina Modeste Elliott, and I am honored to appear before you today on behalf of Commissioner Kevin McCurdy in support of Bill No. 36-0109. This bill establishes the Inspection and Safety on Public Highways Fund and amends sections relevant to title 20 of the Virgin Islands Code.

The Department of Finance supports this legislation, as it establishes a structured mechanism to enhance roadway safety while strengthening the Government's ability to capture and retain revenues associated with vehicle inspections and regulatory compliance. From a fiscal perspective, the consistent enforcement of these fees will broaden and stabilize non-tax revenue streams, improve compliance, and support more predictable revenue generation. These funds can then be strategically reinvested in critical infrastructure and public safety initiatives.

Equally important, the establishment of a separate fund ensures that revenues generated for a specific purpose are not commingled with the General Fund, strengthening internal controls and aligning with audit best practices. Our support, however, is contingent upon the implementation of a strong financial control framework, including clear guidelines for allowable uses, defined reporting requirements, and appropriate oversight to ensure the fund achieves its intended purpose.

With these safeguards in place, the fund will enhance transparency, accountability, and public trust, while supporting ongoing efforts to modernize financial management across the Government.

This bill presents a meaningful opportunity to advance public safety while improving fiscal performance, with the potential to deliver sustainable and measurable benefits to the Territory.

This concludes my testimony; I am available to answer any questions. Thank you.