

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS
AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

12/02/2025-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 36-0208

Thirty-Sixth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

November 17, 2025

A resolution recognizing United States Senator Mike Crapo for his instrumental role in securing the historic increase in the rum cover over tax reimbursement for the Virgin Islands

PROPOSED BY: Senator Avery L. Lewis
Co-sponsor: Ray Fonseca

1 **WHEREAS**, on July 4, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed legislation into law that
2 increased the rum cover over tax reimbursement for the Virgin Islands from \$10.50 to \$13.25
3 per proof gallon;

4 **WHEREAS**, the increase represents a significant step forward in supporting the
5 economy of the Virgin Islands, helping to service public debt, and providing critical assistance
6 to stabilize the Government Employees Retirement System;

7 **WHEREAS**, the enactment of the legislation reflects years of advocacy and
8 determination by numerous stakeholders, including the Governor of the Virgin Islands, the
9 Legislature, the Delegate to Congress, and members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of
10 Representatives;

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper for the Legislature of the Virgin Islands to formally recognize and honor United States Senator Mike Crapo for his dedication, leadership, and ordinary efforts in helping to secure this long-awaited and transformative bill; Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, honors and commends United States Senator Mike Crapo for his instrumental role in achieving the historic increase in the rum cover over tax reimbursement that will have a positive impact on the Virgin Islands economy, public finances, and pension system.

SECTION 2. In recognition and appreciation of his contributions, the President of the
Senate, or the President's designee, shall present a perma plaque copy of this resolution to
United States Senator Mike Crapo along with a locally produced item from the Virgin Islands.

SECTION 3. The sum of \$2,000 is appropriated from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands, in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, to the Legislature of the Virgin Islands to purchase a locally produced item such as a Crucian bracelet or local painting to present to United States Senator Mike Crapo.

BILL SUMMARY

This resolution honors and commends United States Senator Mike Crapo for his instrumental role in securing the historic increase in the rum cover over tax reimbursement for Virgin Islands.

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