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October 21, 2026

The Honorable Carla J. Joseph
Chair, Committee on Rules and Judiciary
36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas
U.S. Virgin Islands 00804

VIA EMAIL: senatorcarlajoseph@legvi.org

Re: AARP Virgin Islands Support for Bill No. 36-0346 – Emergency Medical Services System

Dear Chair Joseph and Members of the Committee on Rules and Judiciary:

On behalf of AARP Virgin Islands and our more than 22,000 members across the Territory, we write in support of Bill No. 36-0346, which seeks to establish an Emergency Medical Services System under Title 19 of the Virgin Islands Code.

AARP Virgin Islands commends Senator Marise C. James and Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr. for their leadership in advancing this important measure to strengthen emergency medical services throughout the Territory.

Access to timely, reliable, and affordable emergency medical services is essential to the health and safety of Virgin Islanders, particularly older adults. During medical emergencies such as heart attacks, strokes, serious falls, and respiratory distress, a prompt and coordinated response can mean the difference between life and death, recovery and long-term disability, and an older adult's ability to continue living independently.

AARP supports policies that promote access to affordable emergency medical services, including emergency transportation, reduce barriers to access, and support strong licensing standards for

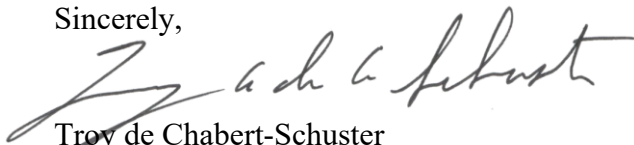
health care providers. Bill No. 36-0346 advances these important objectives by supporting a more coordinated approach to emergency medical services in the Virgin Islands.

Reliable access to emergency medical services is also important to families and caregivers who depend on a responsive system when a loved one experiences a medical emergency. Strengthening access to emergency care can help support the health, safety, and well-being of residents and communities throughout the Territory.

For these reasons, AARP Virgin Islands supports Bill No. 36-0346 and respectfully urges the Committee on Rules and Judiciary to forward the measure favorably for consideration by the full Legislature.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to strengthening the health and safety of Virgin Islanders.

Sincerely,



Troy de Chabert-Schuster
State Director
AARP Virgin Islands

cc: Senator Marise C. James
Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr.
Senator Hubert L. Frederick
Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
Senator Franklin D. Johnson
Senator Ray Fonseca