

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS  
AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

10/22/2024-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

**BILL NO. 35-0316**

**Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands**

**August 30, 2024**

An Act honoring and commending Mrs. Juel Turnbull Rhymer-Molloy for her years of dedicated service and numerous contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands

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**PROPOSED BY:** Senators: Ray Fonseca, Carla J. Joseph, Milton E. Potter,  
Angel L. Bolques, Jr., Kenneth L. Gittens, Donna A. Frett-Gregory,  
Alma Francis Heyliger, Marvin A. Blyden, Samuel Carrión and  
Dwayne M. DeGraff  
Co-sponsor Diane T. Capehart

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1       **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Juel Turnbull Rhymer-Molloy is the daughter of the late James and  
2       Idalia Turnbull; and

3       **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy, the proud mother of one son, was born on St.  
4       Thomas, Virgin Islands, and graduated from the Charlotte Amalie High School in 1963, with  
5       several honors, among which were scholarship, leadership, and citizenship awards such as  
6       “Student of the Year Award”, the “Chamber of Commerce Business Award”, and the “Leon  
7       Mawson Business Award” for being the outstanding business student of the graduating class;  
8       and

9       **WHEREAS**, upon graduating from high school, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy attended  
10       Hampton Institute now Hampton University in Virginia where she studied business education  
11       and received a Bachelor of Science degree, cum laude with departmental honors, in 1967 for  
12       being an outstanding business student; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy returned home to the Virgin Islands and worked  
2 with the Legislature of the Virgin Islands in the positions of Legislative Staff Assistant and  
3 Assistant Executive Secretary; and

4           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Juel Rhymer-Molloy continued her studies at the Wharton School of  
5 Finance and Commerce of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where  
6 graduate studies were undertaken in Business Administration, with specialization in the area of  
7 Industrial Relations, and she later received a Master of Arts degree in Psychology from  
8 Columbia University, New York City, New York, in 1970; and

9           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy was employed with the Virgin Islands Community  
10 Action Agency for seventeen years, fourteen of which she served as its Executive Director; and

11           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy has held memberships in such organizations as the  
12 League of Women Voters, the Humanities Council, and the Eta Phi Beta Sorority, serving as  
13 past president of all three organizations; and

14           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy also served in other community organizations and on  
15 boards such as the St. Thomas/St. John Crime Committee, the Business and Professional  
16 Women's Club, the National Community Action Executive Directors Association, the National  
17 Head Start Board, the Drug Policy Board, the Governor's Committee on Crime Prevention  
18 Board, the Economic Policy Board, and the Virgin Islands Housing Authority Board of  
19 Commissioners; and

20           **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy has been the recipient of numerous honors including  
21 her induction into the Virgin Islands 1st Bi-Annual Women's Hall of Fame, special recognition  
22 at the White House for outstanding contributions to the Head Start Program, the "Virgin Islands  
23 Community Action Agency Award for Outstanding Service", the "Federal Emergency  
24 Management Award", the "Youth in Government Community Service Award", the "Ralph M.  
25 Paiewonsky Human Rights Award", the Rotary Club's "Person of the Year", two Christchurch  
26 Methodist Church Awards, the "Wilbur 'Bill' La Motta Community Service Award", and the

1 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s “HOPE Award” for the  
2 leadership that she provided as Board Chairman in bringing the Virgin Islands agency out of  
3 troubled status; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy, while serving as the Commissioner of the  
5 Department of Human Services, consolidated several social service agencies and provided one-  
6 stop services to many clients, thereby allowing her, along with an excellent staff, to achieve a  
7 lifelong dream of helping many underprivileged people of the Virgin Islands to reach a higher  
8 level of self-sufficiency, cut government waste, and bring federal awards to the Department for  
9 its efficiency and effectiveness; and

10 **WHEREAS**, on November 7, 1994, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy received a letter from then  
11 First Lady Joan Harrigan Farrelly, wishing her well on her retirement from the Government of  
12 the Virgin Islands and thanking her for the difference that she made in Mrs. Farrelly’s life and  
13 the lives of others; and

14 **WHEREAS**, after a brief retirement, Mrs. Rhymer-Molloy worked as an Assistant to  
15 Governor Roy Lester Schneider; worked on contract for the former late Honorable Senator  
16 Lorraine L. Berry, returned to the executive branch and worked for former Governor Charles  
17 Wesley Turnbull as his Chief of Staff; retired again for a few years, then worked as a consultant  
18 to former Governor Kenneth Ezra Mapp, and now is fully retired; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Juel Rhymer-Molloy has earned the respect and admiration of the  
20 people of the Virgin Islands for her unselfish dedication to her goal to make a better future for  
21 the residents of the Territory; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in Resolution No. 1394, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands honored and  
23 commended Mrs. Juel Rhymer-Molloy for her extensive government service, commitment, and  
24 dedication to her community; Now, Therefore,

25 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:*

