ACTNO. 8469

BILL NO. 34-0077

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2021

An Act amending Act No. 8365, the Fiscal Year 2021 Executive Budget, and Act No. 8348, the Legislature's Fiscal Year 2021 Budget, to restore the 8% reduction in salaries to the employees of the Government of the Virgin Islands and for other related purposes

---0---

WHEREAS, the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the Virgin Islands enacted the Virgin Islands Economic Stability Act of 2011, Act No. 7261 ("VIESA"), which reduced by 8% the salaries of all Government employees in the executive and legislative branches;

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands recognizes that the Government of the Virgin Islands has an obligation to make whole all employees who suffered salary reductions under the VIESA; and

WHEREAS, the Government has exceeded revenue collection projections for Fiscal Year 2021 ("FY2021") and the 34th Legislature of the Virgin Islands has determined it appropriate to utilize the excess revenue collected over projections for FY2021 for repayment of the VIESA debt to government employees.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Act No. 8365 (Bill No. 33-0377), as amended by Acts No. 8411(a)(3) and 8451, section 2(a) is amended in the following instances:

- (a) Page 3, in Subsection D "ORG 210 OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET":
 - (1) by adding a line item that reads: "8% Salary Restoration \$36,279,008"; and
- (2) in "Total Org 210 Office of Management and Budget" by striking "\$44,978,546" and inserting "81,257,554" in its place.
- (b) After subsection AE, the total for "Grand Total General Fund" is amended by striking "\$638,259,749" and inserting "\$674,538,757" in its place.

SECTION 2. Act No. 8348, section 1 is amended by:

- (a) Striking "\$23,025,000" and inserting "\$24,745,992" in its place; and
- (b) Adding a line item that reads: "8% Salary Restoration \$1,720,992".

SECTION 3. Section 1 of Act No. 8341 is amended in the following instances:

- (1) Insert "8% salary restoration" after "supplies and equipment,";
- (2) Insert "8% Salary Restoration \$4,061,806" after line item "7110 Schneider Regional Medical Center \$25,000,000".
- (3) Strike "7110 Schneider Regional Medical Center \$25,000,000" and insert in its place "7110 Schneider Regional Medical Center/Operating Expense \$25,000,000".
- (4) Insert "8% Salary Restoration \$3,565,813" after line item "7110 Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center".
- (5) Strike "7110 Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center \$23,500,000" and insert in its place "7110 Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center/Operating Expense \$23,500,000".
- (6) Strike both instances of "\$48,500,000" and insert in its place "\$56,127,619" after "Total Hospitals and Health Facilities Corporation and General Fund".

SECTION 4. Act No. 8358, section 1 is amended in the following instances:

- (1) Strike "\$25,000,000" and insert in its place "\$25,699,423" after the phrase "the sum of".
- (2) Strike "Total Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority" and insert "Operating Expenses".
- (3) Insert a new line after the first instance of "\$25,000,000" to read "8% Salary Restoration \$699,423".
- (4) Strike the second instance of "\$25,000,000" and insert in its place "25,699,423".
- **SECTION 5.** Act No. 8366 as amended by Act No. 8411, section 2 is amended in the following instances:
 - (1) Section 29 is added to read as follows:
 - "SECTION 29. There is appropriated from the General Fund of the Treasury of

the Virgin Islands for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, the sum of \$3,668,178 to the University of the Virgin Islands for the purpose of restoring 8% of salaries owed to the employees of the University of the Virgin Islands".

(2) Strike both instances of "\$34,516,559" after "Total University of the Virgin Islands and Total General Fund" and in its place insert "\$38,184,737".

SECTION 6. Act No. 8365, section 1, C/CNTR is amended by:

(1) adding a line item immediately after "MIS15 WTJX PUBLIC TELEVISION \$3,627,111" that reads:

"MIS15 WTJX PUBLIC TELEVISION 8% RESTORATION \$458,038.61";

- (2) in "TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS SECTION" by striking "\$15,610,467" and inserting "\$16,068,505.61" in its place; and
- (3) in "GRAND TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS SECTION AND MISCELLANEOUS SCHOLARSHIP-NL" by striking "\$17,156,033" and inserting "\$17,614,071.61" in its place.

SECTION 7. (a) The sums appropriated in sections 1 through 6 are available until December 31, 2021.

(b) By December 31, 2021, the executive and legislative branches of the Government shall repay their respective employees the full amount of the sums deducted from their salaries pursuant to the 8% salary reduction mandated by Act No.7261.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on August 3, 2021.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this Day of August, A.D., 2021.

Donna A. Frett-Gregory President

Genevieve R. Whitaker Secretary



Bill No. 34-0077 is hereby approved.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, This day of August, 2021 A.D.

Albert Bryan Jr

Governor