GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

STATEMENT

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HONOURABLE CORINE N. GEORGE-MASSICOTE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS SECOND SITTING OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE FIFTH HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ON THE PASSING OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT ACT, 2025

Release Date: 29 January, 2026



Good Afternoon,

As Speaker of this Fifth House of Assembly, I am delighted to announce that the House of Assembly (Management) Act, 2025 received its assent on 26th January, 2026 and will come into force, tomorrow, 30th January, 2026.

This marks a proud and defining moment in the parliamentary history of the Virgin Islands. It represents a significant step forward in strengthening our democratic institution.

The Members and I championed and support this legislation because of what it stands for, the strengthening of our democracy through a Legislature that is more independent, modern, and accountable.

This legislation is historic in several important respects. It was the first bill, in the Virgin Islands, to be introduced by a Member of the House and passed, without proceeding through Cabinet, affirming the constitutional role of the Legislature as a co-equal branch of Government.

Second, the legislation also establishes a semi-autonomous management structure for the House of Assembly, providing the institutional support necessary for the Legislature to function with professionalism, efficiency, and independence, consistent with parliamentary best practice throughout the Commonwealth.

The passage of the legislation is especially significant as the House of Assembly marks and celebrate its 75th year. This legislation does not merely commemorate our past, it prepares us for the future. It ensures that the people’s House is equipped to meet the demands of modern governance, while safeguarding the integrity of parliamentary democracy.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the Members of this Fifth House, parliamentary staff, and all stakeholders who contributed to this important achievement. This moment stands as a testament to what is possible when we place the institution above politics and commit ourselves to the long-term strengthening of our democratic foundations.

The House of Assembly takes this bold step forward for generations of Virgin Islanders to come.

Thank you.

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Additional Documents or Media

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