BILL NO. 31-0383

Thirty-first Legislature of the Virgin Islands

| June | 29, | 2016 |
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An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, section 470 pertaining to the registry of firearms

PROPOSED BY: Senators Tregenza A. Roach and Myron D. Jackson

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

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- 2 **SECTION 1.** Title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, section 470 is amended as follows:
- 3 (1) Subsection (a) is amended by striking all of the language after the first occurrence of
- 4 "person" and inserting new language that reads: "upon entering the Virgin Islands and bringing any
- 5 firearm or ammunition shall declare all firearms and ammunition to the Commissioner or the
- 6 Commissioner's designee immediately upon arrival to any port of entry and shall furnish a complete
- 7 description of all firearms and ammunition brought into the Virgin Islands. The person shall also
- 8 furnish the person's own name, address, date of birth, and occupation."
- 9 (2) Subsection (b) is amended by striking "report" and inserting "declare the firearm or
- ammunition" by striking "in writing or in person" by inserting "or designee" after "Commissioner"
- and by striking "of his arrival" and inserting "at any port of entry"; and

| 1 | (3) Subsection (c) is amended by striking "reporting" and inserting "making a |
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| 2 | declaration. |
| 3 | SECTION 2. Title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 3 is amended by adding section 470a to |
| 4 | read as follows: |
| 5 | "§ 470a. The Virgin Islands Port Authority shall designate a location at each port which shall |
| 6 | be under the control of the Commissioner of Police for registration of firearms or ammunition and |
| 7 | shall install at each port appropriate signage notifying all persons of the requirements of section |
| 8 | 470." |
| 9 10 | BILL SUMMARY |
| 11 12 13 14 15 16 | This bill amends title 23, chapter 5, and section 470 of the Virgin Islands Code by replacing the requirement of reporting a firearm with the requirement to declare any firearm upon arrival at the port of entry into the Virgin Islands. Under existing law, a person who obtains a firearm or ammunition or brings it into the Territory must report in writing or in person to the Commissioner immediately after its receipt or after the person's entry, as the case may be. |
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| 18 | BR15-0802/June 17, 2016/AA |
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