

05/14/2019-SPECIAL ORDERED

05/07/2019-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 33-0032

Thirty-Third Legislature of the Virgin Islands

March 15, 2019

An Act amending title 3, chapter 33, section 881a of the Virgin Islands Code to require the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Bureau of Information and Technology to establish an official internet website by June 1, 2020, which would provide the public with user-friendly access to financial information, to add more items to the list of required contents of the database and add to the responsibilities of the Office of Management on Budget, Department of Finance and Bureau of Information and Technology

PROPOSED BY: Senators Donna Frett-Gregory, Steven D. Payne, Sr.,
and Athneil “Bobby” Thomas
Co-Sponsors: Javan E. James, Sr., Allison L. DeGazon and
Oakland Benta

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 3, chapter 33, section 881a of the Virgin Islands Code is amended as follows:

(a) In subsection (b):

(1) Strike “June 1, 2013” and insert “June 1, 2020” in its place; and insert “, inclusive of all government instrumentalities, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands, the local Courts of the Virgin Islands and all semi-autonomous agencies.” at the end of the first sentence.

(2) Strike the last sentence and insert the following sentence in its place:

1 “Information in the database must be presented in an intuitive manner for the
2 general public, including graphical representations.”

3 (3) Add a new paragraph (1) which reads as follows: “The Office of
4 Management and Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Bureau of Information
5 Technology are responsible for dictating when and in what manner in which agencies will
6 provide financial information for publication on the official internet website.”

7 (4) Add a new paragraph (3) which reads as follows: “Every agency required
8 to submit financial information to the Office of Management and Budget, the Department
9 of Finance, and the Bureau of Informational Technology according to this section must
10 also publish their financial information on their own respective websites for public access.”

11 (b) In subsection (c):

12 (1) In paragraph (1) by deleting the phrase “unless federal funds are
13 accounted for on the website of the Office of Economic Opportunity as required by the
14 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.”

15 (2) Add a new paragraph (4) which states as follows: “All government
16 contracts, subcontracts and the names of recipients as determined by all agencies as well
17 as the Office of Disaster Recovery.”

18 (3) Add a new paragraph (5) which states as follows: “All positions and
19 respective salaries without any personal identifiers, to include, but not limited to, the
20 employer’s name.”

21 (4) Renumber all subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

22 (c) In subsection (i) by deleting the phrase “the Office of Management and Budget
23 and the Department of Finance” wherever it appears and inserting in its stead “the Office of
24 Management and Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Bureau of Information
25 Technology.”

(d) Strike the language in subsection (f) and insert new language to read as follows:

“(f) All data required to be published in this chapter must be updated on a monthly basis at a minimum.”

Bill Summary

This bill is to amend title 3, section 881a of the Virgin Islands Code to require that the Office of Management Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Bureau of Information Technology establish an official internet website to provide the public with user-friendly access to financial information by June 1, 2020, to add more to the list of required items on the database, and to add more administrative responsibilities to the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Bureau of Information Technology.

BR19-0005/March 5, 2019/ALM/Reviewed by EEM

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