

COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, SPORTS,
PARKS AND RECREATION

10/31/2019-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE FLOOR

10/29/2019-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 33-0109

Thirty-Third Legislature of the Virgin Islands

July 9, 2019

An Act amending the Virgin Islands Code by prohibiting the issuance of marriage licenses to persons under the age of eighteen (18)

PROPOSED BY: Senators Javan E. James, Sr., Janelle K. Sarauw, and
Athneil “Bobby” Thomas
Co-sponsors: Oakland Benta, Alicia V. Barnes, Allison L. DeGazon,
Donna Frett-Gregory, Stedmann Hodge, Jr., and Myron D. Jackson

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Title 16, chapter 1, subchapter II of the Virgin Islands Code is amended
3 as follows:

4 (a) In section 35, subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) in its entirety and
5 renumbering the remaining paragraphs accordingly.

6 (b) By striking the language in section 36 in its entirety and inserting the following
7 in lieu thereof:

8 “If upon the examination prescribed by § 35 of this chapter, it appears that the
9 applicant is under 18 years of age the court shall not, under any circumstances issue a
10 marriage license.”

11 **SECTION 2.** Title 16, chapter 9, subchapter III, section 241 of the Virgin Islands Code
12 repealed in its entirety.

1 **SECTION 3.** Title 16, chapter 9, subchapter 1, section 221 of the Virgin Islands Code
2 is amended by striking paragraph (2) in its entirety and redesignating the remaining paragraphs
3 accordingly.

4 **SECTION 4.** Title 16, chapter 1, subchapter I, section 2 of the Virgin Islands Code is
5 amended in paragraph (4) by striking “16 years of age for males and 14 years for females” and
6 inserting “18 years of age” in its place.

7 **Bill Summary**

8 This Bill amends the Virgin Islands Code by prohibiting the issuance of marriage
9 licenses to persons under the age of eighteen (18).

10 **BR19-0576/June 27, 2019/ EEM**