An Act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, subchapter 1, section 65a, subsections (c), (d), and (e) relating to filling vacancies on boards and commissions to clarify the limitation on the number of governmental or quasi-governmental boards and commissions on which commissioners and directors of the Virgin Islands Government can serve, while serving on the board or commission of any autonomous or semi-autonomous agency; and for other related purposes

PROPOSED BY: Senator Donna A. Frett-Gregory

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 3, chapter 5, subchapter 1, section 65a, subsection(a) of the Virgin Islands Code is amended by inserting “to the contrary” after the word “law” where it first appears.

SECTION 2. Title3, chapter 5, subchapter 1, section 65a of the Virgin Islands Code is amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (c) is amended by striking both occurrences of the phrase, “not an officer of the Government of the Virgin Islands;

(b) Subsection (d) is amended at the end of the subsection by striking “of the United States Virgin Islands” and inserting “simultaneously, nor shall the commissioner or director serve on more than two of any other governmental or quasi-governmental boards during the
period of time that the commissioner or director is serving on the board or commission of any
autonomous or semi-autonomous agency.”

(c) Subsection (e) is stricken and a new subsection (e) is inserted that reads as follows: “(e) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary when filling vacancies to any board, commission, or governing body with a statutorily-designated department commissioner or other agency executive, the Governor of the Virgin Islands may appoint an alternative representative head, who may be any other commissioner, deputy commissioner, assistant commissioner, director or executive officer of any department, agency or office of the executive branch of government. The representative head appointed in place of a statutorily-designated department commissioner shall maintain the responsibilities and decision-making authority of the commissioner that would have been appointed to that board or commission.”

BILL SUMMARY

This bill amends title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, section 65a, chapter 5, section 65a by clarifying the limitation on the number of governmental or quasi-governmental boards and commissions on which Commissioners and Directors of the Virgin Islands Government can serve, while serving on the board or commission of any autonomous or semi-autonomous agency.

BR21-0021/February 3, 2021/ALM