

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCE

01/19/2024-REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 35-0225

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

January 18, 2024

An Act approving the multi-year lease agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and Virgin Islands Centre for Architecture, Crafts, and Build Heritage, St. Croix, Inc. d/b/a Virgin Islands Architecture Center for Built Heritage and Crafts, for Plot No. 8 Church Street and Plots No. 21, 22, and 23 Hospital Street, Christiansted Town, Company Quarter, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, consisting of two, two-story masonry buildings to be used for the common good, welfare, and education of the people of the Virgin Islands on heritage and cultural legacy, and for other related purposes

PROPOSED BY: Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr., by Request of the Governor

1 **WHEREAS**, on October 31, 2023, the Governor of the Virgin Islands approved the lease
2 agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands and Virgin Islands Centre for
3 Architecture, Crafts, and Build Heritage, St. Croix, Inc. d/b/a Virgin Islands Architecture Center
4 for Built Heritage and Crafts for a 50-year term with the option to renew for three additional
5 10-year terms;

6 **WHEREAS**, Virgin Islands Centre for Architecture, Crafts, and Build Heritage, St.
7 Croix, Inc. d/b/a Virgin Islands Architecture Center for Built Heritage and Crafts will be leasing
8 Plots No. 8 Church Street and 21, 22, and 23 Hospital Street, Christiansted Town, Company
9 Quarter, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, known as “the Old Barracks”, housing two, two-story
10 masonry buildings, on approximately 92,347.2 U.S. sq. ft. or 2.12 U.S. acres, more or less, of
11 improved land, as shown on Measure Brief Folio No. 5 dated January 26, 2007, to be used for

1 the common good, welfare, and education of the people of the Virgin Islands on heritage and
2 cultural legacy, and for other related purposes;

3 **WHEREAS**, the rent will be \$1,200 per annum, payable in equal monthly installments
4 of \$100; and

5 **WHEREAS**, title 31 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 21, section 205, subsection (c)
6 provides that in addition to the Governor’s approval of any lease, the Legislature of the Virgin
7 Islands must approve all leases exceeding a term of one year; Now, Therefore,

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Pursuant to title 31 Virgin Islands Code, section 205, subsection (c), the
10 Legislature of the Virgin Islands approves the lease agreement between the Government of the
11 Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Virgin Islands Department of Property
12 and Procurement, and Virgin Islands Centre for Architecture, Crafts, and Build Heritage, St.
13 Croix, Inc. d/b/a Virgin Islands Architecture Center for Built Heritage and Crafts for Plot No.
14 8 Church Street and Plots No. 21, 22, and 23 Hospital Street, Christiansted Town, Company
15 Quarter, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, known as “the Old Barracks”, housing two, two-story
16 masonry buildings, on approximately 92,347.2 U.S. sq. ft. or 2.12 U.S. acres, more or less, of
17 improved land, as shown on Measure Brief Folio No. 5 dated January 26, 2007, to be used for
18 the common good, welfare, and education of the people of the Virgin Islands on heritage and
19 cultural legacy, and for other related purposes.

20 **BILL SUMMARY**

21 This bill approves the lease agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands
22 and Virgin Islands Centre for Architecture, Crafts, and Build Heritage, St. Croix, Inc. d/b/a
23 Virgin Islands Architecture Center for Built Heritage and Crafts.

24 **BR23-0877/January 11, 2024/PFA**
25 **G35-028**