

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS AFFAIRS
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

07/13/2023-REPORTED OUT TO THE FLOOR

07/12/2023-REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 35-0041

Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

February 27, 2023

An Act awarding the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor posthumously to former Senator Edgar Milton Iles for his commendable public service and contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands

PROPOSED BY: Senators Kenneth L. Gittens, Franklin D. Johnson,
Donna A. Frett-Gregory and Marvin A. Blyden
Co-sponsors: Carla J. Joseph, Samuel Carrión and
Ray Fonseca

1 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Milton Iles was born on October 8, 1927 in New York City to
2 George and Albertha Iles; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Iles came to St. Croix on March 24, 1938 and attended public school
4 on the island and graduated from Christiansted High School in 1916; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Iles is the proud father of seven children: Delroy, Ray, Dean, Charles,
6 Juanita, Kisha and Derek; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Iles is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, having
8 served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Iles worked for the Virgin Islands Government for approximately
10 forty years, including a long and impressive record of distinguished service as a member of the
11 Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Legislatures of the Virgin Islands, the
12 Territorial Committee of the Democratic Party and Third Constitutional Convention; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Iles has accumulated a wealth of experience having worked with the
2 St. Croix Labor Union, the Virgin Islands Corporation, the U. S. Postal Service, the Department
3 of Conservation and Cultural Affairs, and as a proud farmer; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Iles has been an active member of the American Legion, having served
5 in many leadership capacities, including Vice Commander of American Legion Alexander
6 Hamilton Post No. 85, Founding Commander of Bromley Berkeley Post No. 133, District
7 Commander of District No. 10, American Legion, Department of Puerto Rico and the Virgin
8 Islands, Department Vice Commander of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Iles, realizing the importance of volunteering his skills, lendt
10 considerable time to community activities, such as the St. Croix Home Guard, the Boy Scouts,
11 the Boys' Club, the American Red Cross. the Auxiliary Firefighters, the Special Olympics, the
12 St. Croix Chamber of Commerce, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Frederiksted Festival
13 Committee, the Rotary Club St. Croix-West, Horse Racing Judge, the Governor's Blue Ribbon,
14 Committee on Parks, Sports, and Recreation, the Inter-Islands Athletic Meets Committee, and
15 the Grove Place Action Committee; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Edgar Iles was named District Governor Nominee 1993—94 for Rotary
17 Club District 702 and served as President of the Virgin Islands Olympic Committee beginning
18 in 1976 and

19 **WHEREAS**, throughout Senator Iles' legislative service, he accomplished many
20 legislative initiatives on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, including a Domestic
21 Violence Bill, the Campaign Disclosure Law and the completion of the lighting of the former
22 Paul E Joseph Stadium in Frederiksted; and

23 **WHEREAS**, even after he retired, Edgar Iles remained active in many civic
24 organizations and continued to spend time in neighborhood and youth related activities where
25 he served as a strong role model; Now, Therefore,

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the Virgin
3 Islands, hereby posthumously honors and commends Edgar Milton Iles for his outstanding
4 community service and contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Thirty Fifth Legislature, on behalf of the People of the Virgin Islands,
6 honors the late Edgar Milton Iles, pursuant to title 1, chapter 7, section 103, and awards him
7 the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor posthumously to recognize the outstanding public service
8 to the people of the Virgin Islands provided by him throughout his lifetime.

9 **SECTION 3.** A perma plaque copy of this Resolution shall be prepared and presented
10 to the surviving family of the late Edgar Milton Iles by the President of the Legislature, or his
11 designee, at an appropriate ceremony to be held for that purpose.

12 **BILL SUMMARY**

13 This resolution posthumously honors and commends Edgar Milton Iles for his
14 outstanding community service and contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands and also
15 posthumously awards him the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor.

16 **BR23-0340/February 1, 2023/AA**