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JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

March 13, 1967

*See View noted  
3/27/67*

*Returned to Recd*

Mr. Harry C. McPherson  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Harry:

I am enclosing for your use and information copies of the executive reports of the Bureau of the Budget and the Department of the Interior on S. 450, a bill to provide for the popular election of the Governor of the Virgin Islands and for other purposes.

During the Senate Interior Committee's consideration of this measure in executive session, concern was expressed that the Bureau and the Department have apparently taken somewhat different positions on certain aspects of the proposed legislation which relate to Presidential powers and the degree and form of self-government which should be granted the people of the Virgin Islands.

Hearings were held on S. 450 on February 20, 1967. Unfortunately, the Bureau of the Budget's report was not made available to the Committee until March 3, 1967. As a result, the Committee has not had an opportunity to discuss this matter with the appropriate officials.

The primary areas of concern are as follows:

1. The executive report of the Bureau of the Budget of March 3, 1967 goes beyond all

*Chas. [unclear]*

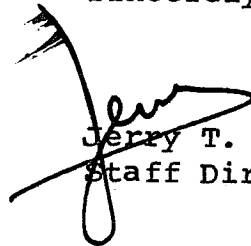
previous executive communications in recommending that "the President be given the authority to . . . veto an act of the territorial legislature when he determines such action necessary." This veto "would be applicable to all territorial laws."

2. It appears to the Committee that as a matter of principle there is a conflict between the purpose of the Act as expressed by the Department of the Interior and retaining (a) the power of the President to remove an elected Governor for cause, and (b) expanding the Presidential veto power to cover all legislation.

As you know, the same problems encountered in S. 450 are involved in S. 449 which would provide for the popular election of the Governor of Guam.

To ascertain and clarify the Administration's official position on these matters, Senator Jackson has scheduled a meeting with the appropriate officials for March 14, 1967 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 3112 of the New Senate Office Building. I anticipate that you or someone from your office will be in attendance at this meeting to informally discuss this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Jerry T. Verkler  
Staff Director

JTV:vne

Enclosures

*Harry, I strongly believe that the bill gives the President all the power he needs to act in national security instances which you mentioned.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET  
Washington, D. C. 20503

March 3, 1967

Honorable Henry M. Jackson  
Chairman, Committee on  
Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
3106 New Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your requests of January 24 and 30, 1967, for the comments of the Bureau of the Budget on S. 449, "To provide for the popular election of the Governor of Guam, and for other purposes" and S. 450, "To provide for the popular election of the Governor of the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes."

The general purpose of these two bills is stated in their titles. While we fully support this purpose and the provisions of the bills designed to accomplish it, there are two aspects of the legislation that concern us. These two aspects relate to Presidential powers -- removal of the Governor and veto of the acts of the territorial legislature.

Our concern stems from the fact that S. 449 and S. 450 will not alter the status of Guam and the Virgin Islands as unincorporated territories of the United States. Hence, these bills would not diminish the responsibilities of the Congress and the President under the Constitution with respect to making and executing rules and regulations for these territories. The territories would continue to be the responsibility of the Federal Government, and it would continue to be accountable to the United Nations for the protection and welfare of their inhabitants.

In addition, despite the proposed change in their method of selection, the elected Governors would continue to have a responsibility not only for the execution of territorial laws but also the execution of certain Federal laws applicable to the territories. Chief among the latter are the organic acts themselves.

For the foregoing reasons, we believe that the President's capability to discharge effectively his responsibilities within the territories must be retained. These responsibilities involve foreign policy, national security, Federal property, and other matters significantly affecting the interest of the United States.

We recommend, therefore, that the President be given the authority to remove a territorial Governor or to veto an act of the territorial legislature when he determines such action necessary either from the standpoint of United States foreign policy or national security, or when necessary to protect Federal property or other significant interests of the United States. These criteria for Presidential action could be specifically written into law or they could be spelled out in the legislative history of the bills.

Our recommendation for a veto that would be applicable to all territorial laws goes beyond the present authority of the President to veto only certain territorial laws that have been previously vetoed by the Governor. [The present authority is appropriate where, as now, the Governor is an appointed official, but it is not adequate to enable the President to meet his responsibilities when the governorship becomes an elective office.] To avoid undue delay, the legislation could provide that territorial acts would take effect if not vetoed by the President within 60 days after notification of enactment.]

We recognize that the continuing authority that the Congress and the President would have with respect to the territorial governments could be characterized as limiting the concept of territorial self-government. In our judgment, however, the legislation, amended as we recommend, would provide the maximum degree of self-government consistent with the need for the effective discharge of Federal obligations and responsibilities in these areas.

Accordingly, if amended in the manner recommended above, the Bureau of the Budget would strongly recommend the enactment of S. 449 and S. 450.

In addition, we recommend that the Committee give favorable consideration to the amendments to the bills proposed by the Interior Department in its reports.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Wilfred H. Rommel

Wilfred H. Rommel  
Assistant Director for  
Legislative Reference



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

FEB 18 1967

Dear Senator Jackson:

This is in response to your request for the views of this Department on S. 450, a bill "To provide for the popular election of the Governor of the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes."

We recommend the enactment of S. 450 if amended as suggested in this report.

Section 1 of the bill provides for the removal of limitations formerly imposed by the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands on the length of both regular and special sessions of the legislature of the Virgin Islands. It sets the opening date for the annual session of the legislature and sets the basis for special sessions. We feel that this provision is wholly consistent with the spirit and intent of S. 450 and this Department's concern with providing ever more meaningful "home-rule" in the territories.

Section 2 of the bill changes the number required for a quorum of the legislature from seven to eight.

Section 3 of the bill takes from the President his authority to exercise final veto power over the legislation referred to him by the Governor after such legislation has been passed by the legislature over the Governor's veto.

Section 4 of the bill provides for the popular election of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, defines the scope of the Governor's authority, sets out the duties of his office, and delineates the qualifications for office. The elected Lieutenant Governor will take the place of the Government Secretary now provided for in the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands. A majority vote is required to elect, and a runoff will be held in case a majority is not obtained in the first election.

The bill provides for the election of the first Governor to take place in November 1970 for a two-year term. Thereafter, the election will be held every four years beginning in 1972. There is a provision that limits a person to two terms unless one full term has intervened.

We strongly endorse this section. An elected Governor is very much desired by the people of the Virgin Islands and is the next step in the self-governing process for this territory.

Section 5 of the bill provides for the removal of the Governor. The section provides for a recall if 75 percent of the registered voters vote for the recall at a referendum election and the removal is approved by the President. It also provides that the referendum for the recall may be initiated by the legislature upon a two-thirds vote of the members in favor of such referendum or upon a petition to the legislature of 25 percent of the registered voters. We recommend two changes in this section. First, the words "or Acting Governor" should be deleted from line 10, page 6, of the bill. We suggest that these words be deleted because we can perceive of no reason to provide for the removal of a temporary official. Later sections of this bill provide for a successor to the office of Governor if the elected Governor should, for some reason, not be able to fulfill his term of office.

Second, on page 6, line 12, delete ": (a)" and insert a period after the words "referendum election" and delete all after that phrase to the end of the sentence on line 16, page 6. We have no preference as to a method for removal of the Governor by the people of the Virgin Islands. Both recall and impeachment have been suggested and we would accept either or both forms, whatever the final decision of the Congress. However, we do not believe that, in connection with the recall, a concurrence by the President in any removal by recall, as now provided in the bill, is desirable, and therefore delete that provision. In our opinion, the requirement for such concurrence is wholly inconsistent with the theory and principle of recall.

Section 6 of the bill repeals the power of the Governor to appoint administrative assistants for the islands of St. John and St. Croix. This power would no longer be needed if the bill is enacted.

Section 7 provides for the succession to the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor if there is either a temporary or permanent vacancy in either office. We recommend that the phrase "removal by recall," be deleted from line 21, page 7. We recommend this deletion because there is no provision in the bill for removal of the Lieutenant Governor by recall or any other method.

Section 8 deletes from the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands the requirement that the Secretary of the Interior approve the creation or establishment of any department, bureau, independent board, agency, authority, commission, or other instrumentality. This deletion is in keeping with the provisions of the bill.

Section 9 contains changes in section 17 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands that are necessary to bring that section into conformity with the changes that the elected Governor and his authority will cause in the administrative setup of the Virgin Islands government.

Section 10 provides for the payment of salaries and travel allowances of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the heads of the executive departments, other officers and employees of the government of the Virgin Islands and the members of the legislature by the government of the Virgin Islands.

Section 11 extends to Guam the privileges and immunities clauses, the due process clause, and the equal protection of the laws clause of the Constitution. This will guarantee to all United States citizens in or entering the Virgin Islands--including the corporations of any of the United States--rights of national citizenship such as the right to engage in interstate and foreign commerce, the right to appeal in proper cases to the national courts, and the right to protection abroad. We recommend that on page 11, line 25, the word "paragraph" be deleted and in its place be substituted the word "clause". This is a technical amendment to correct the citation to the Constitution.

Section 12 amends the General Military Law to authorize the President to call upon Federal or local forces to suppress civil insurrection in the Virgin Islands as in any State. This change is necessitated by the limitation of authority for the elected Governor of the Virgin Islands to call upon the United States Armed Forces in an emergency.

At this point, we recommend the insertion of a new section 12, to read as follows, and renumbering subsequent sections:

"SEC. 12. Section 2 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497; 48 U.S.C. 1541) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection (c):

"(c) The relations between such government and the Federal Government in all matters not the program responsibility of another Federal department or agency, shall be under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior."

This new section is intended to provide for certain loose ends which will remain upon the enactment of this bill. Following the achievement of Commonwealth status by Puerto Rico, we found that no provision

had been made for any centralized Federal cognizance of the multitude of matters flowing between the Commonwealth and the Federal Government, as well as between private citizens and the Commonwealth through a Federal "middleman". Because of this Department's peculiar responsibilities for the territories before changes in status are effected, we found ourselves in the position of an intermediary without any real assignment of the function and finally found it necessary to deny any responsibility because our information and contacts were inadequate. We believe that the bill before you should recognize this residual need for coordination, and because of this Department's expertise, vest that responsibility in the Secretary of the Interior. Our amendment recognizes that the people and the government of the Virgin Islands, in many cases, will deal directly with various Federal agencies, and specifically excludes from the residual authority any matters which are the program responsibility of another Federal department or agency.

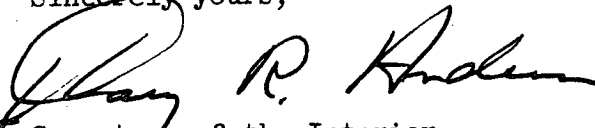
Section 13 sets out the effective date of the various provisions of the bill.

Section 14 is the citation provision.

It is our view that greater autonomy for the Virgin Islands is morally and politically right. Additionally, in recent years, a popularly elected Governor has been and is now very much desired by the people of the Virgin Islands. The action of the 89th Congress, which came so close to fulfilling the people's wish, has served to sharpen that desire. In view of these developments, we more than ever believe that enactment of this legislation is important, and we are therefore hopeful that this legislation will be enacted early in the 90th Congress.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program, but that the Bureau will submit its comments separately.

Sincerely yours,

  
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Henry M. Jackson  
Chairman, Committee on  
Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.



[COMMITTEE PRINT]

FEBRUARY 25, 1967

Calendar No.

90TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

S. 450

[Report No. ]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 17 (legislative day, JANUARY 12), 1967  
Mr. JACKSON (for himself and Mr. BURDICK) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and  
Insular Affairs

FEBRUARY , 1967

Reported by Mr. [Name], with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

**A BILL**

To provide for the popular election of the Governor of the  
Virgin Islands, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That effective on the date of enactment of this Act section 7 (a) of

4 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (68 Stat.

5 497, 500; 48 U.S.C. 1572 (a) ), as amended, is amended

6 to read as follows:

7 “(a) Regular sessions of the legislature shall be held

8 annually, commencing on the second Monday in January

J. 75-190c

1 (unless the legislature shall by law fix a different date),  
 2 and shall continue for such term as the legislature may  
 3 provide. The Governor may call special sessions of the  
 4 legislature at any time when in his opinion the public  
 5 interest may require it. No legislation shall be considered  
 6 at any special session other than that specified in the call  
 7 therefor or in any special message by the Governor to the  
 8 legislature while in such session. All sessions of the legis-  
 9 lature shall be open to the public."

10 SEC. 2. Effective on the date of enactment of this Act,  
 11 section 9, subsection (a) of the Revised Organic Act of the  
 12 Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 501; 48 U.S.C. 1575 (a) ) is  
 13 amended by deleting the first sentence and by substituting  
 14 therefor the following: "The quorum of the legislature shall  
 15 consist of eight of its members."

16 SEC. 3. Section 9, subsection (d), of the Revised Or-  
 17 ganic Act of the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 502; 48  
 18 U.S.C. 1575 (d) ) is amended by deleting its sixth, seventh,  
 19 eighth, ninth, and tenth sentences and by substituting there-  
 20 for the following: "If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds  
 21 of all the members of the legislature pass the bill, it shall be  
 22 a law."

23 SEC. 4. Section 11 of the Revised Organic Act of the

1 The Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 503; 48 U.S.C. 1591) is  
 2 amended to read as follows:  
 3 "SEC. 11. The executive power of the Virgin Islands  
 4 shall be vested in an executive officer whose official title  
 5 shall be the Governor of the Virgin Islands. The Gov-  
 6 ernor of the Virgin Islands, together with the Lieutenant  
 7 Governor, shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast  
 8 by the people who are qualified to vote for the members of  
 9 the legislature of the Virgin Islands. The Governor and  
 10 Lieutenant Governor shall be chosen jointly, by the casting  
 11 by each voter of a single vote applicable to both offices. If  
 12 no candidates receive a majority of the votes cast in any  
 13 election, on the fourteenth day thereafter a runoff election  
 14 shall be held between the candidates for Governor and  
 15 Lieutenant Governor receiving the highest and second high-  
 16 est number of votes cast. The first election for Governor and  
 17 Lieutenant Governor shall be held on November 3, 1970.  
 18 Thereafter, beginning with the year 1974, the Governor and  
 19 Lieutenant Governor shall be elected every four years at  
 20 the general election. The Governor and Lieutenant Gov-  
 21 ernor shall hold office for a term of four years and until their  
 22 successors are elected and qualified. No person who has  
 23 been elected Governor for two full successive terms shall be

1 again eligible to hold that office until one full term has in-  
2 tervened. The term of the elected Governor and Lieutenant  
3 Governor shall commence on the first Monday of January  
4 following the date of election.

5 "No person shall be eligible for election to the office of  
6 Governor or Lieutenant Governor unless he is able to read  
7 and write the English language, is and has been for five  
8 consecutive years immediately preceding the election a  
9 citizen of the United States and a bona fide resident of the  
10 Virgin Islands and will be, at the time of taking office, at  
11 least thirty years of age. The Governor shall maintain his  
12 official residence in the Government House on Saint Thomas  
13 during his incumbency, which house together with land app  
14 purtenant thereto is hereby transferred to the government  
15 of the Virgin Islands. While in Saint Croix, the Governor  
16 may reside in Government House on Saint Croix free of  
17 rent.

18 "The Governor shall have general supervision and conf  
19 trol of all the departments, bureaus, agencies, and other int  
20 strumentalities of the executive branch of the government of  
21 the Virgin Islands. He may grant pardons and reprieves  
22 and remit fines and forfeitures for offenses against local laws.  
23 He may veto any legislation as provided in this Act. He  
24 shall appoint, and may remove, all officers and employees of  
25 the executive branch of the government of the Virgin Is-

1 lands; except as otherwise provided in this or any other Act  
2 of Congress, or under the laws of the Virgin Islands, and  
3 shall commission all officers that he may be authorized to  
4 appoint. He shall be responsible for the faithful execution  
5 of the laws of the Virgin Islands and the laws of the United  
6 States applicable in the Virgin Islands. Whenever it be-  
7 comes necessary, in case of disaster, invasion, insurrection, or  
8 rebellion or imminent danger thereof, or to prevent or sup-  
9 press lawless violence, he may summon the posse comitatus  
10 or call out the militia or request assistance of the senior  
11 military or naval commander of the Armed Forces of the  
12 United States in the Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico, which  
13 may be given at the discretion of such military commander  
14 if not disruptive of, or inconsistent with, his Federal respon-  
15 sibilities. He may, in case of rebellion or invasion or im-  
16 minent danger thereof, when the public safety requires it,  
17 proclaim the islands, insofar as they are under the jurisdic-  
18 tion of the government of the Virgin Islands, to be under  
19 martial law. The members of the legislature shall meet  
20 forthwith on their own initiative and may, by a two-thirds  
21 vote, revoke such proclamation.  
22 "The Governor shall make to the Secretary of the In-  
23 terior under section 30 of this Act an annual report of the  
24 transactions of the government of the Virgin Islands for

1 transmission to the Congress and such other reports at such  
 2 other times as may be required by the Congress or under  
 3 applicable Federal law. He shall have the power to issue  
 4 executive orders and regulations not in conflict with any  
 5 applicable law. He may recommend bills to the legislature  
 6 and give expression to his views on any matter before  
 7 that body.

8 "There is hereby established the office of Lieutenant  
 9 Governor of the Virgin Islands. The Lieutenant Governor  
 10 shall have such executive powers and perform such duties  
 11 as may be assigned to him by the Governor or prescribed by  
 12 this Act or under the laws of the Virgin Islands."

13 SEC. 5. Section 12 of the Revised Organic Act of the  
 14 Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 503; 48 U.S.C. 1593)

15 is deleted and replaced by the following new provision, also  
 16 designated section 12:

17 "SEC. 12. Any Governor or Acting Governor of the  
 18 Virgin Islands may be removed from office by the people  
 19 registered to vote in the Virgin Islands: (a) if 75 per cen-  
 20 timum of the persons registered to vote shall vote in favor of  
 21 recall at a referendum election, *election*; and (b) the removal  
 22 of the Governor or Acting Governor is approved by the  
 23 President of the United States. The referendum may be  
 24 initiated by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands, following  
 25 a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislature in favor

1 of a referendum, or by a petition to the legislature of 25 per  
 2 centum of the people registered to vote in the Virgin  
 3 Islands.

4 SEC. 6. Effective on the date of enactment of this Act  
 5 section 13 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands  
 6 (68 Stat. 497, 503; 48 U.S.C. 1594) is hereby repealed.

7 SEC. 7. (a) Section 14 of the Revised Organic Act of  
 8 the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 504; 48 U.S.C. 1595),  
 9 is amended to read as follows:

10 "SEC. 14. (a) In case of the temporary disability (or  
 11 temporary absence of the Governor, the Lieutenant Gover-  
 12 nor shall have the powers of the Governor to exercise  
 13 (b) In case of a permanent vacancy in the office of  
 14 Governor, arising by reason of the death, resignation, removal  
 15 by recall or permanent disability of the Governor, or the  
 16 death, resignation or permanent disability of a Governor-  
 17 elect, or for any other reason, the Lieutenant Governor or  
 18 Lieutenant Governor-elect shall become the Governor, to  
 19 hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor  
 20 shall have been duly elected and qualified at the next regular  
 21 election for Governor.

22 " (c) In case of the temporary disability or temporary  
 23 absence of the Lieutenant Governor, or during any period  
 24 (when the Lieutenant Governor is acting as Governor, the  
 25 President of the Legislature shall act as Lieutenant Governor:

11 (d) In case of a permanent vacancy in the office of  
 12 Lieutenant Governor, arising by reason of the death, resig-  
 13 nation, removal by recall, or permanent disability of the  
 14 Lieutenant Governor, or because the Lieutenant Governor  
 15 or Lieutenant Governor-elect has succeeded to the office of  
 16 Governor, the Governor shall appoint a new Lieutenant  
 17 Governor, with the advice and consent of the legislature,  
 18 to hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor  
 19 shall have been duly elected and qualified at the next regular  
 20 election for Lieutenant Governor.

21 (e) In case of the temporary disability or temporary  
 22 absence of both the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor,  
 23 the powers of the Governor shall be exercised, as Acting  
 24 Governor, by such person as the laws of the Virgin Islands  
 25 may prescribe. In case of a permanent vacancy in the  
 26 offices of both the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, the  
 27 office of Governor shall be filled for the unexpired term in  
 28 the manner prescribed by the laws of the Virgin Islands.

29 (f) No additional compensation shall be paid to any  
 30 person acting as Governor or Lieutenant Governor who does  
 31 not also assume the office of Governor or Lieutenant Gov-  
 32 ernor under the provisions of this Act.

33 (b) Section 15 of the Revised Organic Act of the  
 34 Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 504; 48 U.S.C. 1596), is  
 35 repealed.



1 SEC. 8. Subsection (a) of section 16 of the Revised  
 2 Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, as amended (68 Stat.  
 3 497, 504; 48 U.S.C. 1597 (a)), is amended by deleting  
 4 therefrom the last sentence.  
 5 SEC. 9. (a) Effective on the date of the enactment of this  
 6 Act, section 17, subsection (c), of the Revised Organic Act  
 7 of the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 504; 48 U.S.C. 1599  
 8 (c)) is amended to read as follows: "(c) It shall be the duty  
 9 of the government comptroller to bring to the attention of the  
 10 Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of the Virgin  
 11 Islands all failures to collect amounts due the government,  
 12 and expenditures of funds or uses of property which are  
 13 irregular, unnecessary, or not pursuant to law. The audit  
 14 activities of the government comptroller shall be directed so  
 15 as to (1) improve the efficiency and economy of programs  
 16 of the Government of the Virgin Islands and (2) discharge  
 17 the responsibility incumbent upon the Congress to insure that  
 18 the substantial federal revenues which are covered into the  
 19 treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands are prop-  
 20 erly accounted for and audited."  
 21 (b) Effective on the date of enactment of this Act sec-  
 22 tion 17, subsection (f), of the Revised Organic Act of the  
 23 Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 505; 48 U.S.C. 1599 (f)), as  
 24 amended, is amended to read as follows: "(f) If the Gover-  
 25 nor does not concur in the taking of an appeal to the Secre-

1 tary, the party aggrieved may seek relief by suit in the Dis-  
 2 trict Court of the Virgin Islands if the claim is otherwise  
 3 within its jurisdiction. No later than thirty days following  
 4 the date of the decision of the Secretary of the Interior, the  
 5 party aggrieved or the Governor, on behalf of the head of the  
 6 department concerned, may seek relief by suit in the District  
 7 Court of the Virgin Islands if the claim is otherwise within  
 8 its jurisdiction.

9 (c) Effective on the date of enactment of this Act  
 10 Section 17, subsection (h), of the Revised Organic Act of  
 11 the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 505; 48 U.S.C. 1599 (h))  
 12 is amended to read as follows: "(h) As soon after the close  
 13 of each fiscal year as the accounts of said fiscal year may be  
 14 examined and adjusted, the government comptroller shall  
 15 submit to the Governor of the Virgin Islands, the President  
 16 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representa-  
 17 tives an annual report of the fiscal condition of the govern-  
 18 ment, showing the receipts and disbursements of the various  
 19 departments and agencies of the government."

20 (d) Effective July 1, 1967, a new subsection (k) is  
 21 added to section 17 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin  
 22 Islands (68 Stat. 497, 505; 48 U.S.C. 1599) to read as  
 23 follows: "(k) The salary of the government comptroller and  
 24 the expenses of his office shall be paid by the United States  
 25 from funds derived by transfer from the internal revenue

1 collections appropriated for the Virgin Islands, but such  
 2 salary and expenses shall not exceed such amounts as may  
 3 be specified annually in Federal appropriation acts."

4 (e) Effective on the date of enactment of this Act a new  
 5 subsection (1) is added to section 17 of the Revised Organic  
 6 Act of the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 505, 48 U.S.C.  
 7 1599) to read as follows: "(1) All departments, agencies  
 8 and establishments shall furnish to the government comp-  
 9 troller such information regarding the powers, duties, activi-  
 10 ties, organization, financial transactions, and methods of  
 11 business of their respective offices as he may from time to time  
 12 require of them; and the government comptroller, or any of  
 13 his assistants or employees, when duly authorized by him,  
 14 shall, for the purpose of securing such information, have  
 15 access to and the right to examine any books, documents,  
 16 papers, or records of any such department, agency or estab-  
 17 lishment."

18 Sec. 20. Section 20 of the Revised Organic Act of the  
 19 Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497, 505, 48 U.S.C. 1592, 1598,  
 20 1641), as amended, is amended to read as follows:

21 "Sec. 20. The salaries and travel allowances of the  
 22 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the heads of the executive  
 23 departments, other officers and employees of the government  
 24 of the Virgin Islands and the members of the legislature,

1 shall be paid by the government of the Virgin Islands at rates  
 2 prescribed by the laws of the Virgin Islands."

3       "SEC. 11. Effective on the date of enactment of this Act,  
 4 section 3 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands  
 5 (68 Stat. 497; 48 U.S.C. 1561) is amended by adding at  
 6 the end thereof the following new paragraph:

7       "(The provisions of paragraph clause 1 of section 2 of  
 8 article IV and section 1 of amendment XIV of the Con-  
 9 stitution of the United States shall have the same force and  
 10 effect within the unincorporated territory of the Virgin  
 11 Islands as in the United States or in any State of the United  
 12 States.)"

13       "SEC. 12. Effective on the date of enactment of this Act,  
 14 chapter 15 of the General Military Law (70A Stat. 15, 16;  
 15 10 U.S.C. 331-334) is amended by adding at the end thereof  
 16 the following new section 336:

17       "SEC. 336. For the purposes of this chapter, 'State'  
 18 includes the unincorporated territory of the Virgin Islands."

19       "SEC. 13. Section 2 of the Revised Organic Act of the  
 20 Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 497; 48 U.S.C. 1541) is amended  
 21 by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection (c):  
 22       "(c) The relations between such government and the  
 23 Federal Government in all matters not the program responsi-  
 24 bility of another Federal department or agency, shall be

1 *under the general administrative supervision of the Secre-*  
2 *tary of the Interior."*

3 *SEC. 14. Effective on the date of enactment of this Act,*  
4 *section 19 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands*  
5 *(68 Stat. 505; 48 U.S.C. 1632) is amended by deleting the*  
6 *word "annually".*

7 ~~SEC. 13.~~ 15. Those provisions necessary to authorize the  
8 holding of an election for Governor and Lieutenant Governor  
9 on November 3, 1970, shall be effective on January 1, 1970.<sup>o</sup>  
10 All other provisions of this Act, unless otherwise expressly  
11 provided herein, shall be effective January 4, 1971.

12 ~~SEC. 14.~~ 16. This Act may be cited as the "Virgin  
13 Islands Elective Governor Act".

[COMMITTEE PRINT]

FEBRUARY 25, 1967

Calendar No.

90<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 450**

[Report No. 1]

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## **A BILL**

To provide for the popular election of the Governor of the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes.

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By Mr. JACKSON and Mr. BURDROK

JANUARY 17 (legislative day, JANUARY 12), 1967  
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior  
and Insular Affairs

FEBRUARY, 1967  
Reported with amendments