

ACT NO. 7882

BILL NO. 31-0355

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2016

An Act honoring and commending John W. Tranberg, Sr., on the celebration of his centennial anniversary; petitioning the Governor to finalize the purchase of Plot No. 14AB Estate North Hall; appropriating \$7,000,000 to purchase Plot No. 14 AB Estate North Hall; and repealing Act No. 7192, an earlier statute making an appropriation to purchase 14 AB Estate North Hall

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WHEREAS, John Wilhem Tranberg, Sr. was born April 17, 1916 in the Frederiksted town area of St. Croix, Danish West Indies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg is the third of six children born to Regina Percival Tranberg and Lauritz Tranberg; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg, affectionately known as "Johnnie," is the father of John, Jr., Olga, Randolph and Carl; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg grew up on the family farm in Estate Mount Washington, St. Croix, Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg began his formal education at the Dane Grammar School on Prince Street; and

WHEREAS, in school, Mr. Tranberg excelled in and enjoyed mathematics, history and civics; and

WHEREAS, unlike other boys his age who preferred to play sports, Mr. Tranberg chose to work as his father's assistant on the family farm, rearing cattle and other livestock; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 1944, Mr. Tranberg was inducted into the United States Army and was assigned initially to the 873rd Port Company and subsequently transferred to the 872nd in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, while serving in the United States Army, Mr. Tranberg received the following commendations: The Overseas Bar; the American Theatre Service Medal; the World War II Victory Medal; and the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, in 1945, Mr. Tranberg was honorably discharged and returned home to St. Croix to work on the family farm with his father; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg received the Virgin Islands Veterans Affairs Director's Test of Time Award for his outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, at that time, the Tranberg's family farm supplied the majority of the fresh milk and produce to the people in Frederiksted; and

WHEREAS, during the mid-1950's, Mr. Tranberg also worked for Sanford and Sons and Meridian Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg enjoys sharing his childhood stories with others; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Mr. Tranberg was honored by the 43rd Annual Agriculture and Food Fair Committee as the livestock farmer of the year; he was also recognized as the oldest living farmer ever honored at the Agrifest Fair, and also that year the pavilion was named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg's huge Senepol bull, Thomas, has also been showcased at the Agrifest Fair for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg's Estate Nicolas Farm received 3rd place in the Senepol Male Senior category in the 2016 Agrifest Livestock Competition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg is a true Crucian icon and a living link to St. Croix's history; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tranberg is well respected for his outstanding achievements, contributions and work in the agricultural industry in the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, Governor Kenneth E. Mapp proclaimed Monday, April 25, 2016, John "Johnny" Tranberg Day in the Territory; Now, Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, congratulates John W. Tranberg, Sr. upon the occasion of the centennial anniversary of his life and honors and commends him for his accomplishments and contribution to the people of the Virgin Islands in the field of agriculture, and extends to Mr. Tranberg best wishes and God's blessings as he celebrated his 100th birthday on April 17, 2016, a milestone that is commemorated as a joyous occasion of celebration for the enrichment that this outstanding centenarian has brought to the lives of the people of the Territory.

SECTION 2. In recognition and appreciation of his contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands, a perma plaque copy of this Act shall be prepared and presented to John W. Tranberg, Sr. by the President of the Legislature or his designee at an appropriate ceremony.

SECTION 3. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands petitions the Governor of the Virgin Islands to finalize the purchase of Plot No. 14AB Estate North Hall from Mr. Tranberg for the people of the Territory as prescribed in section 22 of Act No. 6534.

SECTION 4. The sum of \$7,000,000 or so much of the sum as is necessary, considering fair market value, is appropriated in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the interest earned on debt services or from any available funding source to purchase Plot 14AB, Estate North Hall, West End Quarter, St. Croix, consisting of approximately 12.4 U.S. acres, as shown on PWD Drawing No. 1892. The funds remain available until expended.

SECTION 5. Section 2 of Act No. 7192 is repealed.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on May 9, 2016.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 19th Day of May, A.D., 2016.



Neville James
Neville James
President

Myron D. Jackson
Myron D. Jackson
Legislative Secretary

Bill No. 31- 0355 is hereby approved.



**Witness my hand and the Seal of the
Government of the United States
Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie,
St. Thomas, this 27th day of May, 2016 A.D.**

Kenneth E. Mapp
Kenneth E. Mapp
Governor