The path through the 1954 Revised Organic Act to a Municipal Corporations Act through the Governor and the legislature of the Virgin Islands

Citation: “Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands” enacted by Congress and signed by the President of the US July 22, 1954.

Sec. 2. (a) …The Virgin Islands…are hereby declared an unincorporated territory of the United States of America.

Sec. 2. (b) The government of the Virgin Islands shall have the powers set forth in this Act…

Sec. 8. (a) The legislative authority and power of the Virgin Islands shall to extend to all subjects of local application not inconsistent with the Act…

Sec. 8. (c) …the legislature shall have power, when within its jurisdiction and not inconsistent with the other provisions of this Act, to amend, alter, modify, or repeal any local law or ordinance…, and to enact new laws not inconsistent with any law of the United States applicable to the Virgin Islands, subject to the power of Congress to annul any such Act of the legislature.

Sec. 11. The executive power of the Virgin Islands shall be vested in…the “Governor of the Virgin Islands….He shall have general supervision and control of all the departments, bureaus, agencies, and other instrumentalities of the executive branch…

Sec. 16. (a) The Governor shall…reorganize and consolidate the existing executive departments, bureaus, independent boards, agencies, authorities, commissions, and other instrumentalities of the government of the Virgin Islands or of the municipal governments into…executive departments except for independent bodies whose existence may be required by Federal law for participation in Federal programs….and

Sec.16. (b) The Governor shall, from time to time, after complying with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, examine the organization of the executive branch of the government of the Virgin Islands, and shall make such changes therein, subject to the approval of the legislature, not inconsistent with this Act, as he determines are necessary to promote effective management and to execute faithfully the purposes of this Act and the laws of the Virgin Islands.

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