

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, HISTORIC PRESERVATION,
YOUTH AND RECREATION

02/25/2014-AMENDED AND REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 30-0321

WIFE COPY

Thirtieth Legislature of the Virgin Islands

February 19, 2014

An Act providing for the erection of a full length statue of Virgin Islands hero, world boxing champion, the late Emile Griffith in his boxing gloves and fighter's stance at the Emile Griffith Ballpark on St. Thomas and for other purposes

PROPOSED BY: Senators Myron D. Jackson and Tregenza A. Roach

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Pursuant to the authority conferred by title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter
3 18, sections 301 et. Seq., the Commissioner of the Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation in
4 conjunction with the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts shall erect a full-length statue of Virgin
5 Islands hero, world boxing champion, the late Emile Griffith, showcased in his boxing gloves
6 and fighter's stance at the Emile Griffith ballpark on the island of St. Thomas. The statue must
7 be accompanied by a plaque with historical details of Emile Griffith's life.

8 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Planning and Natural Resources shall designate and
9 appropriately mark, with the consent of the family of the late Emile Griffith's childhood home at
10 No. 6 Princesse Gade, Crown Prince Quarter as a historical site of memory to be placed in the
11 Virgin Islands Registry of Historic Places.

1 SECTION 3. (a) The sum of \$30,000 is appropriated for the fiscal year ending
2 September 30, 2015, from the General Fund to the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts to
3 commission a statute of world boxing champion, Emile Griffith, to be erected at the Emile
4 Griffith ball park by the Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation.

5 (b) The sum appropriated in subsection (a) remains available until expended.”

6 SECTION 4. Title 33 Virgin Islands code, chapter 111 is amended by adding an
7 appropriately numbered section to read as follows:

8 “§__ The Emile Griffith Memorial Fund

9 There is hereby created and established in the Treasury of the Virgin Islands a special
10 fund to be known as the Emile Griffith Memorial Fund. The Commissioner of Finance shall
11 maintain and provide for the administration of said Fund as a separate and distinct fund in the
12 treasury and no monies shall be available for expenditure except upon authorization the
13 Department of Planning and Natural Resources in conjunction with the Virgin Islands Council
14 on the Arts. The Fund shall consist of donations of any kind and appropriations made by the
15 Legislature. Monies from the fund shall be used exclusively for the maintenance of the Emile
16 Griffith Ball Park and such projects that the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts considers
17 pertinent to the recognition and remembrance of the legacy of Emile Griffith.”

18 BILL SUMMARY

19 Section 1 of this Bill directs the Commissioner of the Department of Sports, Parks and
20 Recreation to erect a statue of Emile Griffith showcase in his boxing gloves and fighter’s stance
21 at the Emile Griffith Ballpark and the statute must be accompanied by a plaque with historical
22 details of his life.

23 Section 2 of the Bill requires the Department of Planning and Natural Resources to mark
24 and designate No. 6 Princesse Gade, Emile Griffith’s childhood home, as a historical site of
25 memory to be placed in the Virgin Islands Registry of Historic Places.