

BILL NO. 31-0398

Thirty-first Legislature of the Virgin Islands

August 18, 2016

An Act repealing title 33, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 12, section 525 relating to the rate of duty on articles shipped from within the U.S. Customs Zone

PROPOSED BY: Senator Nereida Rivera O'Reilly

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 33 Virgin Islands Code, section 525 of title 33 Virgin Islands is repealed.

SECTION 2. Section 1 takes effect December 31, 2016.

BILL SUMMARY

This bill repeals title 33, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 12, section 525, which provided for the rate of duty on foreign articles shipped from within a U. S. Customs Zone. The Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands 48 U.S.C. §1574 (f) captioned "Customs duty; duty-free importation; effect on other customs laws" provides:

(1) The Legislature of the Virgin Islands may impose on the importation of any article into the Virgin Islands for consumption therein a customs duty. The rate of any customs duty imposed on any article under this subsection may not exceed--

(A) if an ad valorem rate, 6 per centum ad valorem; or

(B) if a specific rate or a combination ad valorem and specific rate, the equivalent or 6 per centum ad valorem.

(2) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the Legislature of the Virgin Islands from permitting the duty-free importation of any article.

(3) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as empowering the Legislature of the Virgin Islands to repeal or amend any provision in law in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subsection [Oct. 15, 1977] which pertains to the customs valuation or customs classification of articles imported into the Virgin Islands.

BR16-1426/July 21, 2016/ALM