

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY

02/22/2018-REPORTED OUT TO THE FLOOR

02/2/2018-REPORTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND THE JUDICIARY

BILL NO. 32-0028

Thirty-Second Legislature of the Virgin Islands

February 23, 2017

An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 19, subchapter I, section 1508 relating to the duties of the Adjutant General requiring the Adjutant General to administer the youth About Face and the adult Forward March programs

PROPOSED BY: Senators Kurt A. Violet and Brian A. Smith
Co-sponsor: Marvin A. Blyden

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 19, subchapter I, section 1508, is amended by adding subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

“(d) Subject to annual appropriations, the Adjutant General shall establish and administer Youth About Face programs. The program must:

(1) operate as a summer and year-round after-school life preparation program for economically disadvantaged and at-risk youths from 13-17 years of age;

(2) provide schoolwork assistance, focusing on the skills needed to master basic high school competencies and functional life skills, including teaching students to work effectively in groups;

- 1 (3) provide basic instruction in computer skills;
- 2 (4) teach basic problem-solving, decision making, and reasoning skills;
- 3 (5) provide instruction on how the business world and free enterprise
- 4 work through computer simulations;
- 5 (6) training in basic skills that businesses require for employment
- 6 consideration; and
- 7 (7) teach home finance and budgeting and other daily living skills.
- 8 (e) Subject to annual appropriations, the Adjutant General shall establish and
- 9 administer Forward March job-readiness programs for economically disadvantaged young
- 10 adults ages 18-29 who are directed to Forward March by the Department of Labor. The
- 11 Forward March program must:
- 12 (1) provide training on topics that directly relate to the skills required
- 13 for real-world success;
- 14 (2) emphasize functional life skills, computer literacy, interpersonal
- 15 relationships, critical thinking skills, business skills, pre-employment and work
- 16 maturity skills, job-search skills and job-specific skills;
- 17 (3) explore careers activities, including how to be a successful and
- 18 effective employee;
- 19 (4) provide extensive opportunities for participants to practice generic
- 20 job skills in a supervised work setting; and
- 21 (5) upon completion of the program, return participants to the
- 22 Department of Labor for placement in the job placement pool.”

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BILL SUMMARY

This bill amends title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 19, subchapter I, section 1508 by requiring the Adjutant General to administer the youth About Face and the adult Forward March programs. About Face is a summer and year-round after-school life preparation program for economically disadvantaged and at-risk youths from 13-17 years of age. Forward March is a job-readiness program for economically disadvantaged young adults ages 18-29 who are directed to Forward March by Department of Labor.

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