

## THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GOVERNMENT HOUSE Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802 340-774-0001

## VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

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## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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## **A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its 5th anniversary of raising awareness of the vital role that apprenticeships play in preparing the people of United States Virgin Islands with the qualifications and competencies needed for a strong and highly-skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, the advancement and well-being of the U.S. Virgin Islands depend upon the continued development of skilled workers in their chosen fields; and

WHEREAS, there are more job openings than job seekers in the United States, and the growth and expansion of apprenticeship will help bridge the skills gap to fill these jobs; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeships are proven pathways to fulfilling careers in diverse industries such as information technology, healthcare, energy, aerospace, construction, advanced manufacturing, hospitality, financial services, and more; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeship programs are uniquely able to meet the changing demands of the U.S. economy and provide the education required to develop in-demand skills through its earn-while-you-learn model; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Virgin Islands recognizes that robust apprenticeship programs provide tangible value to both job creators and apprentices, with the potential to increase productivity, improve diversity and inclusion, and reduce recruitment and training costs while providing a pathway to prosperous careers for job seekers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert Bryan Jr., Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Organic Act of 1954, as amended, do hereby proclaim the 11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 as "National Apprenticeship Week" in the United States Virgin Islands Territory.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States to be affixed at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, this 25th day of October, A. D. 2019.



Tregenza A. Roach, Esquire Active Governor

Attest:

Novelle E. Francis, Jr. Acting Lieutenant Governor