

Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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The Honorable
Angel Bolques, Jr.
Senator-At-Large
35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

CHAIRMAN
Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, & Parks

VICE-CHAIRMAN
Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

MEMBER
Committee on Rules & Judiciary
Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety
Committee on Housing, Transportation, & Telecommunication
Subcommittee on Energy & Infrastructure Development



For Immediate Release:

July 11, 2024

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MEDIA PRESS RELEASE

Senator At Large Angel Bolques Jr. Applauds the Passage of Bill No. 35-0078 Establishing "Fish and Fungi" as the Official Dish and "Tart" as the Official Dessert of the Virgin Islands

U.S. Virgin Islands – Senator At Large Angel Bolques Jr. extends his heartfelt gratitude to his colleagues in the 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands for their unanimous support and approval of Bill No. 35-0078. This legislation officially designates "Fish and Fungi" as the national dish and "Tart" as the official dessert of the Virgin Islands.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the 35th Legislature for their steadfast support and for recognizing the cultural and economic significance of this measure. This decision honors our rich culinary heritage and officially sets the stage for promoting the Virgin Islands as a premier cultural and gastronomic tourism destination," said Senator Bolques Jr. Senator Bolques Jr. also thanks Commissioner of Tourism Joseph Boschulte, Assistant Commissioner Alani Henneman, and their dedicated team for their invaluable collaboration in bringing this vision to fruition. Their efforts have been instrumental in ensuring the successful passage of this bill. A special note of gratitude is extended to Governor Bryan Jr. for his swift action in signing the bill into law. "Governor Bryan's approval underscores the administration's commitment to celebrating and preserving our unique culinary traditions," Senator Bolques Jr. added.



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The establishment of "Fish and Fungi" as the official dish and "Tart" as the official dessert holds significant importance for the Virgin Islands. It not only reinforces our cultural identity but also opens up many economic possibilities surrounding our food culture here in the Virgin Islands. By highlighting these iconic dishes, we can attract culinary enthusiasts from around the world, thereby boosting tourism and generating revenue for our territory. Moreover, it offers a unique marketing angle to promote the Virgin Islands globally.

"This legislation is more than a nod to our heritage; it's a strategic move to position the Virgin Islands as a must-visit destination for food lovers. The economic benefits are substantial, as it will enhance our tourism offerings and create new opportunities for local businesses and artisans," Senator Bolques Jr. emphasized.

In closing, Senator Bolques Jr. reiterates his commitment to preserving the cultural heritage of the Virgin Islands and exploring innovative ways to market our territory to the world. "Together, we can ensure that our traditions are celebrated and that our economy thrives," he concluded.