

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

**BILL NO. 34-0157**

**Thirty-Fourth Legislature of the Virgin Islands**

**November 16, 2021**

A Resolution honoring and commending Gloria H. Canegata Waterman for her outstanding years of service to the Virgin Islands Community as an educator and public servant through various organizations

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**PROPOSED BY:** Senators Kenneth L. Gittens and Genevieve R. Whitaker

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1       **WHEREAS**, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman was born on June 19, 1936, on the island  
2 of St. Croix to the late Leroy Anselmo and Idalia Henry Huggins; and

3       **WHEREAS**, she married the late Herbert Lloyd Canegata, Sr. and together they  
4 produced three children: Eugene Lloyd, H. Lloyd, Jr.(deceased), and Gizette Levonne. She is  
5 the proud grandmother of nine: five grandsons and four granddaughters. She also has seven  
6 great-grandchildren whom she adores and is expecting a fifth granddaughter this year; and

7       **WHEREAS**, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman graduated from St. Mary's Catholic  
8 School in 1954 and left St. Croix to attend Hampton Institute in Virginia and earned a Bachelor  
9 of Science degree in mathematics in 1958. While at Hampton Institute Ms. Gloria H. Canegata  
10 Waterman became a member of the Science National Honor Society, Beta Kappa Chi; and

1           **WHEREAS**, upon graduation, she returned to St. Croix and began her career at the  
2 Christiansted High School as a mathematics teacher and subsequently became the head of the  
3 mathematics department; and

4           **WHEREAS**, in 1960 and 1961, Ms. Gloria Canegata Waterman received a National  
5 Science Foundation Summer Fellowship to attend the University of Detroit and the University  
6 of Puerto Rico, respectively and also earned an academic year fellowship to attend the  
7 University of Michigan in the fall of 1961; and

8           **WHEREAS**, in 1963 Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman became the V.I. Department of  
9 Education’s Supervisor of Mathematics; and

10           **WHEREAS**, in 1965 Ms. Canegata Waterman earned her Master of Arts Degree in  
11 education from the New York University; and

12           **WHEREAS**, in 1970 the Honorable Governor Melvin H. Evans appointed Ms. Gloria H.  
13 Canegata Waterman to the position of St. Croix District Superintendent of Education, a position  
14 she held for sixteen and a half years. During that time, she was actively involved in bringing  
15 forth the construction of eight schools — six elementary and two junior high schools; and

16           **WHEREAS**, during her tenure at the Department of Education, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata  
17 Waterman served three years on both the Puerto Rico-Virgin Islands Advisory Committee and  
18 on the Commission on Secondary Schools of the Middle States Association of Colleges and  
19 Schools; and

20           **WHEREAS**, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman was the first person from the Virgin  
21 Islands to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Middle States Association of Colleges and  
22 Schools where she served a six-year term. While on the Board of Trustees of the Middle States  
23 Association of Colleges and Schools she served as Vice Chairman of the Visiting Committee  
24 at Bishop McManus High School in Aquadilla, Puerto Rico and as the Interim Review Visitor  
25 for St. Dunstan’s Episcopal School and Country Day School, both on St. Croix; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman served intermittently as an adjunct  
2 mathematics professor/instructor at the University of the Virgin Islands from 1972 to 1987; and

3           **WHEREAS**, in 1987 Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman began a new career with the  
4 Virgin Islands Department of Labor, serving as the Director of Job Training and then the  
5 Director of Job Service. During her tenure at the Department of Labor, she revamped the Job  
6 Service Division and reestablished the Disabled Veteran’s Unit while receiving commendations  
7 for improving the federal reporting requirements to maintain access to federal funding before  
8 retiring in 1992; and

9           **WHEREAS**, as a devout Catholic, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman responded to the  
10 need of St. Joseph’s Catholic High School and served as its principal from 1995 to 1999 and as  
11 a staff member to Senate President Vargrave Richards staffer in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislature of the  
12 Virgin Islands; and

13           **WHEREAS**, in 2003, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman was asked by the Honorable  
14 Charles W. Turnbull, Ph.D. to serve as the Assistant to the Governor of the Virgin Islands and  
15 later as the St. Croix Administrator, and served in that position until December 2006 when she  
16 retired from public service for the final time; and

17           **WHEREAS**, during her retirement, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman continued to  
18 serve the community by serving on the Board of Directors of the Governor Juan F. Luis  
19 Hospital and Medical Center during which time she served as Chairman of the District and  
20 Territorial Boards. She also served as Vice-Chairman on the Virgin Islands Waste Management  
21 Authority Board. In 2002, she was elected to the Virgin Islands Territorial Committee of the  
22 Democratic Party and served for two terms; and

23           **WHEREAS**, Gloria H. Canegata Waterman was initiated into Alpha Kappa Alpha  
24 Sorority at Hampton Institute in 1956 through the Gamma Theta Chapter. She is a Pearl Soror

1 and life member of the sorority. Her leadership experience within the sisterhood has been on  
2 the local, regional, and national levels; and

3       **WHEREAS**, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman is a charter member of the St. Croix  
4 Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Mu Gamma Omega. She has served as  
5 Chapter President, Vice-President, Treasurer, financial Secretary, Hostess, Parliamentarian,  
6 Historian, and Membership Chairman. Regionally, she has represented the chapter as a delegate  
7 at the regional conferences, served as Regional Parliamentarian, Historian and Conference  
8 Chairman. Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman has served by appointment of the International  
9 President of the sorority on the National Constitution & Bylaws Committee,  
10 Graduate/Undergraduate Concerns Committee, Archives Committee, Rituals Committee, and  
11 was the first elected member from the International Region of the sorority to serve on the  
12 Interim Nominating Committee; and

13       **WHEREAS**, under the leadership of Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman, the Mu Gamma  
14 Omega Chapter was recognized as the Outstanding Graduate Chapter for Outstanding  
15 Programs; and

16       **WHEREAS**, Ms. Gloria H. Canegata Waterman was known as a professional  
17 businesswoman, entering business with her late husband Charles Waterman, becoming the  
18 President and Manager of Charlie's Automotive Center; and

19       **WHEREAS**, she is called upon to present workshops on business and social etiquette,  
20 and protocol for various groups and organizations. She promoted native cuisine through  
21 workshops on the art of making beignet, patés, and other local dishes. She also made the  
22 traditional Black Cake for weddings, birthdays, and other holiday celebrations. Now,  
23 Therefore,

24 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:*

