

ACT NO. 6935**BILL NO. 27-0073****TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS****Regular Session****2007**

An Act honoring Austin "Babe" Monsanto for his contributions to the Virgin Islands community and naming The Crown Bay Marine Terminal in his honor

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WHEREAS, Austin "Babe" Monsanto was born on the island of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands on May 20, 1926, one of nine children, to the union of Rose Mahoney and George Monsanto; and

WHEREAS, Austin "Babe" Monsanto received his formal education attending Jefferson Elementary School, Charlotte Amalie High School, and the Hampton Institute; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto was a founding member of the first Cub Scout pack in the Virgin Islands, where a child, he developed a love for growing flowers, camping at Santa Maria, fishing at the Salt Pond, Lameshur, and Maho Bay Bays on St. John and later in life taught these activities to groups of Virgin Islands children.; and

WHEREAS, Austin "Babe" Monsanto was drafted into the Armed Forces in May 1945 at the age of 18, served with the 785th Ordinance Company, was called back into active duty in 1951 to serve in the Korea in the 44th AAA Gun Battalion, U.S. 2nd Army Infantry Division, after first graduating from the Guided Missiles School in Ft. Bliss Texas; and upon his return, he was appointed as the First Commander of the 420 Quartermaster Company, the first United States Army Reserve Unit commissioned in the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto began his professional career in 1953 as the Assistant Superintendent of the Mandahl School for Boys; he then taught Industrial Arts at Charlotte Amalie High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto married Alda Schulerbrandt in July of 1955 and they became the proud parents of Trevor, Stephen, and Edwin Monsanto; and

WHEREAS Mr. Monsanto was appointed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in December of 1958 as the first native Virgin Islander to become a National Park Ranger and the first Black Park Ranger to attend the National Park Training Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto became the Area Supervisor for the *Aedes Aegypti* Eradication Program in 1966 which was successful in preventing an outbreak of Yellow Fever and Dengue disease; and

WHEREAS, Austin "Babe" Monsanto had a passion for sports, excelling in basketball, volleyball, softball, track and field, playing competitively with organizations such as Tau Beta Alpha Club of St. Thomas, Red Wings Athletic Club, and the Texaco Stars and was inducted into the Heroes Athletic Club Hall of Fame in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto was appointed in 1967 as the Marine Manager of the V.I. Airport Industrial Resource Agency, which was then renamed the Virgin Islands Port Authority, where he served with distinction for 18 years; and

WHEREAS, under his able leadership, he directed marine cargo and passenger operations on the Charlotte Amalie Waterfront, Edward Wilmoth Blyden IV Marine Terminal, Crown Bay Cargo Port, Crown Bay Cruise Ship Terminal, Crown Bay Sand Fill Dock, including Tropical Shipping, Turnbull Sand and Gravel Operation and Sea Chest Building Supplies; and the Red Hook Marine Passenger and Cargo Facility. On St. John, he oversaw the Loredon Lorence Boynes Sr. Passenger Dock and Cargo Dock; and

WHEREAS, Austin "Babe" Monsanto has given freely of his time and talents as a member of Rotary Club of St. Thomas where he continues to serve on the Board of Directors since 1985 and participates in meal programs for senior citizens, visiting the hospital bound, and reading to various elementary school children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto is also a member of the USO Board of Directors, a founding member of the St. Thomas/St. John Friends of Denmark, President of the American Hibiscus Society, and was a member of the American Red Cross Board from 1984 to 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto serves as a member of the V.I. Lottery Board of Drawing, as Chairman of the Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management Commission, and an a founding member of the We From Upstreet Inc., where he has been instrumental in the renaming and rehabilitation of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Park; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto has received honors for his outstanding contributions to the community, including the "Paul Harris Award of 1987 and 1997" from Rotary St. Thomas, 1998 Grandfather of the Year, from the Edith Williams Elementary School Parent Teachers Association, 1998 Virgin Islands Man of the Year, from the Freshwater Yankees Association, 1998 Virgin Islands Man of the Year, from the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Monsanto's accomplishments in and contributions to the Virgin Islands Community are unparalleled and worthy of permanent recognition by the naming of the Crown Bay Marine Terminal in his honor; Now, Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the People of the Virgin Islands, recognizes and honors Austin "Babe" Monsanto for his many years of dedicated service to the people of the Virgin Islands, as a marine manager, commissioner, public servant, and culture bearer.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding 29 V.I.C. §577, The Crown Bay Cruise Ship Marine Terminal is renamed "The Austin "Babe" Monsanto Marine Terminal." The Port Authority shall affix a bronze plaque at the Terminal bearing the name of this renowned Virgin Islander, Austin "Babe" Monsanto.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on September 19, 2007.

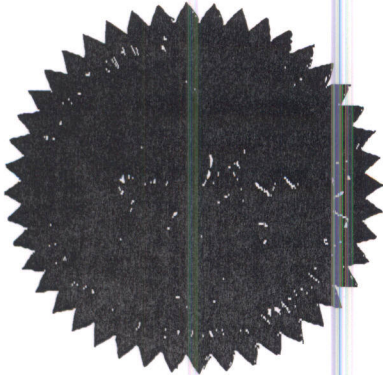
Witnessed our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 27th Day of September, A.D., 2007.



Usie R. Richards
Usie R. Richards
President

James A. Weber III
James A. Weber III
Legislative Secretary

Bill No. 27-0073 is hereby approved.



Witness my hand and the Seal of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, this 10th day of October, A.D., 2007.

John B. de Jongh, Jr.
John B. de Jongh, Jr.
Governor