

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 6116, with Amendments

(The amendments strike all after the enacting clause and insert a new text and a new title)

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6116

To amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide for direct appeals to the United States Supreme Court of decisions of the Virgin Islands Supreme Court.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2012

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (for herself, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. WATT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. EDWARDS, Ms. WATERS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BASS of California, Ms. MOORE, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide for direct appeals to the United States Supreme Court of decisions of the Virgin Islands Supreme Court.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. DIRECT REVIEW BY U.S. SUPREME COURT OF**
2 **DECISIONS OF VIRGIN ISLANDS SUPREME**
3 **COURT.**

4 Section 23 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin
5 Islands (48 U.S.C. 1613) is amended by striking “: Pro-
6 vided, That” and all that follows through the end and in-
7 serting a period.

8 **SEC. 2. JURISDICTION OF THE SUPREME COURT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 81 of title 28, United
10 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 **“§ 1260. Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands; certio-**
13 **rari**

14 “Final judgments or decrees rendered by the Su-
15 preme Court of the Virgin Islands may be reviewed by the
16 Supreme Court by writ of certiorari where the validity of
17 a treaty or statute of the United States is drawn in ques-
18 tion or where the validity of a statute of the Virgin Islands
19 is drawn in question on the ground of its being repugnant
20 to the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States,
21 or where any title, right, privilege, or immunity is specially
22 set up or claimed under the Constitution or the treaties
23 or statutes of, or any commission held or authority exer-
24 cised under, the United States.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
2 tions for chapter 81 of title 28, United States Code, is
3 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1260. Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands; certiorari.”.

4 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

5 The amendments made by this Act apply to cases
6 commenced on or after the date of the enactment of this
7 Act.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide for direct review by the United States Supreme Court of decisions of the Virgin Islands Supreme Court, and for other purposes.”.