#### STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

## 2007 No. 1678

# The Virgin Islands Constitution Order 2007

### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

#### CHAPTER 5

#### THE LEGISLATURE

#### Composition

#### **Qualifications for elected membership**

- **65.**—(1) Subject to this section and section 66, a person shall be qualified to be elected as a member of the House of Assembly if, and shall not be qualified to be so elected unless, he or she—
  - (a) was so qualified immediately before the commencement of this Constitution; or
  - (b) is a person who—
    - (i) is a Virgin Islander of the age of twenty-one years or upwards; and
    - (ii) is otherwise qualified as a voter under section 68.
- (2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), for the purposes of subsection (1)(b)(i) a "Virgin Islander" is a person who belongs to the Virgin Islands by birth or descent who was—
  - (a) born in the Virgin Islands of a father or mother who at the time of the birth was a British overseas territories citizen (or a British Dependent Territories citizen) by virtue of birth in the Virgin Islands or by virtue of descent from a father or mother who was born in the Virgin Islands;
  - (b) born in the Virgin Islands of a father or mother who at the time of the birth belonged to the Virgin Islands by birth or descent; or
  - (c) born outside the Virgin Islands of a father or mother who at the time of the birth belonged to the Virgin Islands by birth or descent.
- (3) A person born outside the Virgin Islands who belongs to the Virgin Islands by descent shall not be qualified to be elected as a member of the House of Assembly unless one of his or her grandparents belonged to the Virgin Islands by birth.
- (4) A person, whether born in or outside the Virgin Islands, who would otherwise be qualified to be elected as an elected member of the House of Assembly by virtue of subsection (1)(b) shall not be so qualified unless—
  - (a) where that person has never been domiciled in the Virgin Islands, he or she has resided in the Virgin Islands for at least five years immediately before the date of his or her nomination for election; or
  - (b) where that person was formerly domiciled in the Virgin Islands but has lived outside the Virgin Islands for a continuous period of at least ten years (excluding periods related to medical or educational purposes), he or she has resided in the Virgin Islands for at

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least three years immediately before the date of his or her nomination for election and is domiciled in the Virgin Islands at that date.