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## Bryan Proposes 25% Tariff on BVI Imports and Travel Fees for Non-Residents

The governor requests an emergency legislative session to address economic imbalances, proposing new tariffs and entry/exit fees to protect local businesses and increase government revenue.

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### BVI Ports Authority

Governor Albert Bryan Jr. has formally requested an emergency meeting with the Virgin Islands Legislature to discuss the implementation of tariffs on imported goods from the British Virgin Islands (BVI) and the introduction of travel fees for non-residents crossing between the two territories.

In a letter addressed to Senate President Milton Potter, Governor Bryan noted the urgency of addressing economic imbalances and protecting local businesses. He stressed the need for decisive action to ensure the U.S. Virgin Islands maximizes its revenue potential from cross-border trade and travel. Under the proposal, tariffs on imported goods from the BVI could be set at 25% or higher, and new entry and exit fees would apply to non-residents traveling to and from the U.S. Virgin Islands via the BVI.

“This discussion is crucial to ensuring fair trade and economic stability for the U.S. Virgin Islands,” Governor Bryan stated. “For too long, we have experienced economic leakage and inconsistencies in our trade relationship with the BVI. It is time we take decisive action to protect our local industries, generate revenue for essential services, and create a more balanced regulatory framework.”

The Bryan administration has expressed readiness to provide lawmakers with data and impact assessments to support the discussion. He urged the Legislature to convene as soon as possible to deliberate on the proposed measures and evaluate their potential impact on businesses, residents, and travelers.