The Thirty-Third Legislature will convene in a Committee of the Whole Hearing to receive updates on the Corona Virus (COVID-19) Pandemic State of Emergency Declaration, the Election Systems and the 2020 Election Cycle.

Testifiers:

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Ms. Justa Encarnacion
Commissioner
Virgin Islands Department of Health

Daryl D. Jaschen
Director
Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA)

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Caroline A. Fawkes
Supervisor
Election System of the Virgin Islands

Mr. Raymond Williams
Chairman
Virgin Islands Board of Elections
Wednesday May 6, 2020

Committee: Legislative Session

Location: Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall
St. Thomas

Call to Order: Honorable Senate President Novelle E. Francis, Jr.

Invocation: Bishop Damas S. Eloi
Living Word Family Ministries Church

Anthems: National Anthem and Virgin Islands March

Roll Call: Honorable Senator Alicia V. Barnes
Legislative Secretary

Committee Reports: Chairperson of Committees

Request to Special Order Measures to the Floor

The Thirty-Third Legislature will rise out of Committee of the Whole and convene into Legislative Session to consider the following:

CONSIDERATION OF FLOOR AGENDA
CONSIDERATION OF NOMINEES:

Nominees

Mr. Enrique Rodriguez
Ms. Pamela Montegut
Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission
District of St. Thomas/St John

Dr. Noreen Michael, Ph.D.
Virgin Islands Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
District of St. Thomas/St. John

Mr. Dodson James
Virgin Islands Racing Commission
District of St. Croix

Ms. Jenny Hawkes
Virgin Islands Board of Career and Technical Education
District of St. Thomas/St. John
CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION:
CONSIDERATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT:

Bill No. 33-0279 – An Act approving the Lease Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands Department of Property and Procurement and Caledonia Communication Corporation

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS:

Bill No. 33-0093 – An Act amending title 33, chapter 111 of the Virgin Islands Code by adding a new section 3057a, establishing the St. Thomas Capital Improvement Fund

Bill No. 33-0097 – An Act posthumously honoring and commending Euclyn “Pede” Prentice, Jr., for his accomplishments in the horse racing industry and his contributions to the Virgin Islands and naming a road in his honor

Bill No. 33-0102 – An Act amending title 17, chapter 15, sections 190u and 476 of the Virgin Islands Code relating to the valedictorian and salutatorian awards by including graduates of the Adult Education Center among those eligible to receive scholarships as valedictorian and salutatorian; and section 72 (e) relating to scholarships grants to increase the scholarship maximum amounts for undergraduate and graduate scholarship; and amending Act No. 8245 relating to appropriations for the valedictorian and the salutatorian awards to consolidate them into one line item in the annual budget and a combined appropriation

Bill No. 33-0132- An Act amending title 3, chapter 7, section 715 of the Virgin Islands Code to strengthen the Board of Government Employees Retirement System (GERS) by requiring greater expertise among Board members

Bill No. 33-0137 – An Act authorizing the Department of Economic Research of the Office of Management and Budget, Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, and the Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority to create a plan to assist the U.S. Virgin Islands in developing a sustainable blue economy within the Territory

Bill No. 33-0197 – An Act amending title 33, subtitle 1, part II, chapter 20, section 681 of the Virgin Islands Code by authorizing the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue to create any and all forms necessary for the collection and filing of taxes

Bill No. 33-0224 – An Act amending title 14, chapter 23, section 485 (f) of the Virgin Islands Code by increasing the fines for selling or serving alcoholic beverages to minors

Bill No. 33-0273 – An Act amending title 9, chapter 25 and title 29 chapter 12 of the Virgin Islands Code relating to personnel hiring requirements for International Financial Service Entities to operate international finances services and to receive tax incentive benefits under the International Banking Center Regulatory Act and the Economic Development Program to amend the hiring requirements for receipt of tax incentive benefits

Bill No. 33–0230 – An Act to posthumously honor and commend Beulah Smith Harrigan for her service to the children of the Virgin Islands and for her role in the development of the library system of our territory and to name the children’s room at the Charles Wesley Turnbull Regional Library in her memory
Bill No. 33-0242 A Resolution to petition the members of 116th United States Congress to terminate the statutory cap on overall Medicaid funding to the Territory, to eliminate the specific limit of 55 percent on the rate of federal matching funds for Medicaid in the Territory and to provide for the eligibility of the Territory to receive Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments, so that the Territory can strengthen its Medicaid Program to enroll and provide care for all of the Territory’s residents who are Medicaid eligible and for additional funding to help offset the Territory’s uncompensated care costs

Bill No. 33-0244 An Act to amend title 1, chapter 11 of the Virgin Islands Code to declare the month of May as Virgin Islands Mental Health Awareness Month and to assign the responsibilities of increasing mental health awareness and reducing the stigma of mental illness to the Department of Health and the Department of Education

Bill No. 33-0249 – An Act amending title 7, chapter 9, section 9 of the Virgin Islands Code by adding a new paragraph mandating the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Tourism shall alternately and annually host an Agricultural Symposium known as the V.I. Agricultural Caribbean Symposium, on the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John

Bill No. 33-0292-An Act providing for referendum vote on convening a constitutional convention to consider adopting the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands or portions of it as the Constitution of the Virgin Islands

Bill No. 33-0293-An Act amending title 7 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 13, subchapter III, section 207 to add the Commissioners of the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs and the Department of Health to the Virgin Islands Industrial Hemp Commission

Bill No. 33-0294-An Act renewing and extending the State of Emergency in the Virgin Islands based on the COVID-19 Pandemic

Bill No. 33-0295-An Act prohibiting the granting of business licenses and building permits for floating business in places designated as areas of particular concern in the Code of U.S. Virgin Islands Rules, title 25, chapter 16, subchapter 404, section 404-5

Bill No. 33-0296-An Act providing for any qualified elector to vote by absentee ballot in the 2020 elections to ensure that electors are not disfranchised by the Coronavirus 2019 Pandemic

Bill No. 33-0297-An Act amending title 3, chapter 11 of the Virgin Islands Code adding section 177a to provide for the use of credit cards for government purchases