



35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
SENATE CALENDAR
August 05, 2024 – August 16, 2024

MONDAY,
AUGUST 05, 2024

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

TUESDAY,
AUGUST 06, 2024

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 07, 2024

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

THURSDAY,
AUGUST 08, 2024

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

**FRIDAY,
AUGUST 09, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

**MONDAY,
AUGUST 12, 2024**

OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT

Reserved

**TUESDAY,
AUGUST 13, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR DONNA A. FRETT-GREGORY
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.**

**Committee on Budget,
Appropriations and Finance
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

The 35th Legislature's Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance has scheduled a hearing to receive testimony and discuss the budget of various departments and agencies at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.

**10:00 A.M. Economic Development Authority
Wayne Biggs, CEO**

**12:30 P.M. Department of Property and Procurement
Honorable Lisa M. Alejandro, Commissioner**

**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 14, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR RAY FONSECA**

**Committee on Homeland Security,
Justice and Public Safety
10:00 A.M.
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 15, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR MARISE C. JAMES
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR DONNA A. FRETT-GREGORY**

**Committee on Education
and Workforce Development
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

The Committee on Education and Workforce Development has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 10:00 am in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall to discuss the following items.

BLOCK I

Bill No. [35-0252](#) An Act amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code by adding a chapter 44A, relating to the establishment of the Virgin Islands High School Graduation Plan Act, to assist students to graduate from high school and successfully transition to post-secondary education, to the workforce, or to the military

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education

Honorable Justa “Tita” Encarnacion, Commissioner, Department of Health

Honorable Averil George, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Human Services

Honorable Gary Molloy, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Labor

Dr. Kyza A. Callwood, Chairman, Virgin Islands Board of Education

Angus Drigo, Executive Director, Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands

Dwayne Alexander, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Housing Authority

Bill No. [35-0270](#) An Act amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 9, subchapter I, requiring the Commissioner of the Virgin Islands Department of Education to establish, maintain, and administer a school suspension program for students who are suspended from a public school for three or more school days

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education

Honorable Justa “Tita” Encarnacion, Commissioner, Department of Health

Dr. Kyza A. Callwood, Chairman, Virgin Islands Board of Education

Angus Drigo, Executive Director, Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands

BLOCK II

Testifiers will provide information on the annual Educational Assistance provided to the Department of Education by EDC beneficiaries from 2020-2024; specifically, the process for the collection and transfer of funds to the Department of Education; the number of beneficiaries currently providing educational assistance, the total amount of money provided annually to the Department of Education for public school programs and initiatives, reports required to be generated to assess the success of the required assistance; and whether the legislation needs to be amended.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education

Wayne Biggs, CEO, Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority

BLOCK III

The Committee will receive a status update from the Virgin Islands Department of the Education on the success of the summer enrichment programs, the current status of school facilities and assessment of overall school readiness including but not limited to data on teacher vacancies and recruitment efforts to fill positions, data on student enrollment, information on assignment and reassignment of principals, and the status and use of the federal funds that must be spent by September 30, 2024. The Committee will hear from the newly hired Executive Director of the Bureau of School Construction and Maintenance about his plans and goals for the territorial schools. Finally, the Board of Education and St. Croix Public School Parent Coalition will present testimony on their respective priorities for the 2024-2025 school year and any concerns that the Board and the Coalition have as the new school year begins.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education

Craig Benjamin, Executive Director, Bureau of School Construction and Maintenance

Dr. Kyza A. Callwood, Chairman, Virgin Islands Board of Education

Abdul Ali, Chairman, St. Croix Public School Parent Coalition

**FRIDAY,
AUGUST 16, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR DONNA A. FRETT-GREGORY
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.**

**Committee on Budget,
Appropriations and Finance
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

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**10:00 A.M. Virgin Islands Department of Justice
 Gordon Rhea, Attorney General Nominee**

12:30 P.M. Bills
