



35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
SENATE CALENDAR
August 12, 2024 – August 23, 2024

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.
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

Please be advised that the 35th Legislature's Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, & Public Safety has scheduled a legislative committee hearing for **10:00 am, Wednesday, August 14, 2024, in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall, located on St. Thomas.**

The agenda is as follows:

BLOCK I

10:00 A.M.

Bill No. [35-0031](#) An Act amending title 5, V.I.C., subtitle 3, part I, by adding a new chapter 301A, creating the Child Victims' and Child Witnesses' Rights Act and repealing chapter 301, subchapter IV, section 3510.

Invited Testifiers:

Gordon Rhea, Esq., Attorney General Nominee, Department of Justice

Honorable Averil George, Commissioner, Department of Human Services

Dr. Clema Lewis, Director, Women's Coalition of St. Croix

Darian Torrice-Hairston, Director, Nana Baby Children's Home

BLOCK II

1:30 P.M.

Bill No. [35-0271](#) An Act amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 43, subchapter I by adding a section 494b establishing school speed zones, signage, and enforcement measures to promote student and pedestrian safety near schools.

Department of Public Works, Office of Highway Safety, and Traffic Investigation Bureau Operational Status Update: This update intends to provide an overview of the current operational status of the Department of Public Works and the VIPD's Office of Highway Safety and Traffic Investigation Bureau. The update will include, but not be limited to any ongoing projects, key initiatives aimed at enhancing roadway safety and infrastructure. Additionally, information on progress made in traffic investigations and plans for future improvements will be discussed.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner, Department of Public Works

Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington, EdD., Commissioner, Department of Education

Mario Brooks, Acting Commissioner, VI Police Department

Elise P. Menzies, Principal, St. Croix Christian Academy

**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. Otley 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. Otley Legislative Hall to discuss the following:

BLOCK I

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

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

**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 15, 2024**

PRESIDENT: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.

VICE PRESIDENT: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN

Regular Session

4:00 P.M.

Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

Legislative Session has been scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Earle B. Ottley Hall on St. Thomas. It will immediately follow a Committee of the Whole to discuss the Pafford situation.

**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**

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 and to consider bills at 10:00 a.m. on, Friday, August 16, 2024 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.

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

12:30 P.M. Bills

**MONDAY,
AUGUST 19, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR DIANE T. CAPEHART
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MILTON E. POTTER**

**Committee on Rules and Judiciary
9:30 A.M.
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary has scheduled its first symposium on Monday, August 19, 2024 to meet with various agency heads with an aim to begin the process of updating antiquated sections of the Virgin Islands Code.

**TUESDAY,
AUGUST 20, 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. Ottery Legislative Hall**

**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 21, 2024**

OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT

Reserved

**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 22, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR DIANE T. CAPEHART
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MILTON E. POTTER**

**Committee on Rules and Judiciary
9:00 A.M.
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

**FRIDAY,
AUGUST 23, 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**
