



## 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

### SENATE CALENDAR

August 19, 2024 – August 30, 2024

**MONDAY,  
AUGUST 19, 2024**

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

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

The **Committee on Rules and Judiciary** has scheduled its Inaugural Legislative Symposium for **Monday August 19, 2024, at 9:30 AM** in the **Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, St. Croix, Virgin Islands** to discuss proposed changes to the Virgin Islands Code. The Symposium will continue **August 26, 2024, at 9:30AM** in the **Earl B. Ottley Legislative Hall, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands** at which time, the Committee members will act on the proposed legislations and amendments.

The Legislative Symposium's purpose is to expedite proposed amendments to the sections of the Code that directly impact each department's operations and functions as this event initiates the urgent process of updating antiquated sections of the Virgin Islands Code. The goal is for the agencies to present areas of the Code that require the immediate attention of the Legislative body. As a legislator and, most importantly, as the chair of this committee, it is my duty to provide all stakeholders with the opportunity to make the necessary, time-sensitive, well-needed amendments.

The dates and location for the Symposium are as follows:

- Thursday, August 19, 2024, St. Croix in the Frits E. Lawaetz Conference Room - 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM; and
- Thursday, August 26, 2024, St. Thomas in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall - 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM

**TUESDAY,  
AUGUST 20, 2024**

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**CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK**

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**Reserved**

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**WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 21, 2024**

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**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT**

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**Reserved**

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**THURSDAY,  
AUGUST 22, 2024**

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

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**Committee on Rules and Judiciary**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

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The Committee on Rules and Judiciary has scheduled a meeting for **Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9:30 AM** in the **Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, St. Croix, Virgin Islands** to consider the following **nominations and bills**:

**BLOCK I**

**Governor's Nomination of Calford S. Martin**

Nominee, Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Commission – District of St. Thomas

**Governor's Nomination of Calford S. Martin, Nominee**

Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority Board of Directors – District of St. Thomas

**BLOCK II**

**Governor’s Nomination of Julian Penn, Nominee**  
Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission – District of St. Thomas

**BLOCK III**

An Act amending title 19, part V, chapter 45, subchapter VI to increase access to behavioral health services, with a focus on a Psychiatric Emergency Response Team to provide mobile crisis intervention services, and the 9-8-8 telecommunication system

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Justa Encarnacion**, Commissioner, Department of Health

**Hazel M. Philbert**, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center

**Tina Commissiong**, CEO, Schneider Regional Medical Center

**Sandra Setorie**, Executive Director, V.I. Public Service Commission

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**FRIDAY,**  
**AUGUST 23, 2024**

**CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK**

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**Reserved**

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**MONDAY,  
AUGUST 26, 2024**

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

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

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  - Thursday, August 26, 2024, St. Thomas in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall - 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM
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**TUESDAY,  
AUGUST 27, 2024**

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

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**Committee on Budget,  
Appropriations and Finance  
9:30 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

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**WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 28, 2024**

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**CHAIR: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MARISE C. JAMES**

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**Committee on Housing, Transportation  
and Telecommunications**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

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The Committee on Housing, Transportation, and Telecommunications has scheduled a meeting for 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall in St. Thomas.

**BLOCK I**

**9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

Update and discussion on the progress of the housing programs under the purview of the V.I. Housing Finance Authority, including the status of homeownership programs throughout the territory; the outlook for affordable housing and homeownership in the territory; the status of home repair programs; the status of the emergency housing programs administered by the Authority; and lastly the status of programs to combat housing instability.

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Eugene Jones**, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority

**Adrienne L. Williams-Octalien**, Director, Office of Disaster Recovery

**BLOCK II**

**11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

The Committee will receive testimony concerning

**Bill No. [35-0181](#)**

An Act to authorize the Government of the Virgin Islands, through the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works and the Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, to identify suitable cemetery property on the island of St. John within 180 days from the enactment of this act.

**Invited Testifiers:****Honorable Lisa Alejandro**, Commissioner, Department of Property and Procurement**Honorable Derek Gabriel**, Commissioner, Department of Public Works**Clarence Stephenson**, St. John Fire Chief & STJ Resident, VI Fire & Medical Services**Carmen Wesselhoft-Hedrington**, Former Senator-at-Large & St. John Resident**Father Anthony Abraham**, Pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Caramel St. John**LUNCH** **1:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.****BLOCK III** **1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M**

Update and discussion on transportation matters in the territory, including the status of roads and road projects and the status of public transportation, including bus and passenger ferry services.

**Invited Testifier:****Honorable Derek Gabriel**, Commissioner, Department of Public Works**BLOCK IV** **3:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M**

Update and discussion on telecommunication issues that impact the economy and the quality of life for Virgin Islands residents. As well as an update on the status of present infrastructure projects and plans for future development, with a focus on planning and utilization of federal broadband funding.

**Invited Testifier:****Attorney Ileana Canellas**, Managing Corporate Counsel, T-Mobile Puerto Rico**Ravindra Maywahlall**, Country Manager, Liberty USVI**Geraldine Pitt**, Chief Executive Officer, Viya**Stephan Adams**, Chief Executive Officer, VI Next Generation Network**Honorable Derek Gabriel**, Commissioner, Department of Public Works**Karl Knight**, Chief Executive Officer, VI Water & Power Authority

**THURSDAY,  
AUGUST 29, 2024**

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

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**Committee on Budget,  
Appropriations and Finance  
9:30 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

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**FRIDAY,  
AUGUST 30, 2024**

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**CHAIR: SENATOR ANGEL L. BOLQUES, JR.  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN**

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**Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging,  
Sports, and Parks  
10:00 A.M.  
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

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