



35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
SENATE CALENDAR
January 22, 2024 – February 02, 2024

MONDAY,
JANUARY 22, 2024

PRESIDENT: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN

Legislative Session
6:00 P.M.
Earle B. Ottery Legislative Hall

State of the Territory Address
The Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr., Governor of the Virgin Islands
7:00 P.M.
Earle B. Ottery Legislative Hall

REGULAR SESSION OFFICIAL AGENDA

Time: 6:00 P.M.

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

Invocation: Pastor Reginald Perry
Victorious Believers Ministries

Anthems: National Anthem and Virgin Islands March
Charlotte Amalie High School Concert Choir

Roll Call: Honorable Carla J. Joseph
Legislative Secretary

Consideration of Floor Agenda:

The 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands will convene to receive The State of the Territory Address from **The Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr.,** Governor of the Virgin Islands.

Recess

Regular Session reconvened

Quorum Call: Honorable Carla J. Joseph
Legislative Secretary

Prayer: Reverend Father Anthony Abraham
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Introduction of **The Honorable Stacey E. Plaskett, Esq.**, Delegate to the United States House of Representatives

Introduction of **The Honorable Tregenza A. Roach, Esq.**, Lieutenant Governor of the Virgin Islands

Introduction of **The Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr.**, Governor of the Virgin Islands

**TUESDAY,
JANUARY 23, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR CARLA J. JOSEPH
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR JAVAN E. JAMES, SR.**

**Committee on Government Operations,
Veterans Affairs and Consumer Protection**

10:00 A.M.

Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection has scheduled a meeting for 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas. The purpose of the meeting is to receive testimony and consider the following legislative measures:

BLOCK I

10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Bill No. [35-0184](#) An Act to honor and commend Viggo E. Sewer posthumously for his ultimate contribution to the Virgin Islands and renaming East End Road on Route 10 on the island of St. John, in his honor.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Derek A. Gabriel, Commissioner, Department of Public Works

Mr. Patrick Farrell, Director, V.I. Veterans Affairs

Mr. Harry Daniel, Commander, American Legion Post 131

Ms. Maria Lett, Resident

BLOCK II**11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

Bill No. [35-0208](#) A Resolution honoring and commending Mrs. Bernice Alma Turnbull for her lifetime of service and dedication to the people of the Virgin Islands.

Invited Testifiers:**Ms. Joanne E. Bozzuto, Esq.,** Resident**Mr. Ronald W. Belfon, Esq.,** Resident**Mr. Ira R. Mills,** Resident**Mrs. Sedonie Halbert,** Resident**Mr. William I. Frett,** Resident**LUNCH****1:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.****BLOCK III****1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

Bill No. [35-0115](#) An Act repealing title 24 Virgin Islands Code chapter 17, subchapter II, “Limited Use of Criminal Records in Hiring Practices,” and enacting in its place “The Fair Chance for Employment Act” relative to criminal records checks in the employment application process; and amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 25, subchapter I, section 452 requiring the Director of Personnel to develop and implement fair chance hiring policies; and for other related proposes.

Invited Testifiers:**Honorable Gary A. Molloy,** Commissioner, Department of Labor**Mr. Akeel St. Jean,** Chairman, St. Croix Chamber of Commerce Board**Dr. Kendra Roach,** Chapter President, Society for Human Resource Management**Ms. Cindy Richardson,** Director, Division of Personnel**Mr. John P. Woods,** President, St. Croix Chamber of Commerce Board**Ms. Wynn Timermark,** Director, Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections**BLOCK IV****3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

The Committee will receive testimony on the operations of the Virgin Islands Public Service Commission including but not limited to enabling law and jurisdiction, current department challenges, and plan of action to resolve challenges.

Invited Testifier:**Ms. Sandra L. Setorie,** Executive Director, Virgin Islands Public Service Commission

**WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 24, 2024**

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

**Committee on Housing, Transportation
and Telecommunications**

10:00 A.M.

Earle B. Ottery Legislative Hall

CALL TO ORDER

10:00 A.M.

Telecommunications update in light of an upsurge in consumer complaints, unresolved issues between providers and regulatory agencies, and the ongoing crisis of affordability. Topics of particular interest include:

An update on any ongoing network or other issues impacting the quality of service, along with actions plans to address any such matter;

Status of present infrastructure projects and plans for future development, with a focus on planning and utilization of federal broadband funding;

Plans for improving and expanding customer service, connections speeds and service coverage areas in the Virgin Islands;

Issues and challenges regarding coordination between telecommunications providers and government agencies on issues such as permitting, access to poles and conduits, customer service issues, etc.; and

Affordability of internet access in general, and for our territory's students in particular, including utilization of the expanded Affordable Connectivity Program.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, Department of Education

Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner, Department of Public Works

Honorable Jean-Pierre Oriol, Commissioner, Department of Planning and Natural Resources

Ms. Jenifer O'Neal, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Mr. Andrew Smith, CEO, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority

Ms. Sandra Setorie, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Public Services Commission

Mr. Stephan Adams, CEO, Virgin Islands Next Generation Network (viNGN)

Ms. Wanda Perez-Alvarez, Esq., Government Affairs Counsel, Liberty Mobile PR/VI

Ms. Geraldine Pitt, CEO, Viya, Inc.

Mr. Mark Hodge, Legal Counsel, T-Mobile, VI

**THURSDAY,
JANUARY 25, 2024**

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

**Committee on Rules and Judiciary
9:30 A.M.
Earle B. Otley Legislative Hall**

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 9:30 AM in the Earle B. Otley Legislative Hall, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands to consider the following Governor's nominations, bills, and resolutions:

BLOCK I

Nomination:

Maurice K. Muia, Nominee, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Board of Directors

BLOCK II

Nomination:

Rodney Francis Querrard, Appointee, Opioid Abatement Committee – District of St. Thomas

BLOCK III

Nomination:

May A. Cornwall, Nominee, Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management – District of St. Croix

BLOCK IV

Bill No. [35-0116](#)

A Resolution honoring and commending Lieutenant Colonel Leayle Gerard Galiber for his leadership in the Virgin Islands National Guard and his dedication to his country and to the people of the Virgin Islands.

Bill No. [35-0178](#)

An Act amending title 5 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 314, to add a section 3732a to allow for the automatic expungement of arrest records upon a finding that the arrest lacked probable cause and amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 33, section 881(g), item 9 relating to public records to designate expunged criminal records as confidential records.

**FRIDAY,
JANUARY 26, 2024**

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

**Committee on Health, Hospitals
and Human Services**

10:00 A.M.

Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Health, Hospitals & Human Services will be conducting a meeting on Friday, January 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall, St. Thomas to consider the following:

Bill No. [35-0207](#) An Act amending title 19 Virgin Islands Code, part I, adding chapter 6a to create the Territorial Chronic Kidney Disease and Diabetes Registry.

Invited Testifiers:

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

Dr. Lyna Fredericks, Director of Chronic Disease, Department of Health

Dr. Tai Hunte-Ceaser, Medical Director, Department of Health

BLOCK II

12:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

The Committee will receive testimony on the operational status of the St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corporation.

Invited Testifiers:

Dr. Tess Richards, Interim Executive Director, St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corp.

Karl Callwood, Chairman of the Board, St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corp.

**MONDAY,
JANUARY 29, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

**TUESDAY,
JANUARY 30, 2024**

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

**Committee on Disaster Recovery,
Infrastructure and Planning
9:30 A.M.
Earle B. Otley Legislative Hall**

The Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure, and Planning will meet on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 9:30 am in the Earle B. Otley Legislative Hall, on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands to consider the following:

BLOCK I :

The Committee will meet to receive testimony as we discuss the territory's goals, and strategies under consideration involving the "bundling" of disaster recovery projects.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Kevin McCurdy, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Finance

Honorable Lisa Alejandro, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Property & Procurement

Mrs. Adrienne Williams-Octalien, Director, Virgin Islands Office of Disaster Recovery

Ms. Dayna Clendinen, Interim Director, Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority

BLOCK II:

Bill No. [35-0172](#) An Act amending Title 29, chapter 5 Virgin Islands Code, relating to building codes to provide for adoption of nationally recognized consensus-based codes and standards and amendments to such codes that are in the best interests of the territory, and to provide for clarifications to the Virgin Islands building code.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Public Works
Honorable Jean Pierre Oriol, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Planning & Natural Resources
Mrs. Adrienne Williams-Octalien, Director, Virgin Islands Office of Disaster Recovery
Mr. Julio U.B. King, Chairman, Virgin Islands Board of General Construction Contractors

Bill No. [35-0202](#) An Act amending title 29, chapter 3 of the Virgin Islands Code to authorize the Historic Preservation Commission to relax certain restrictions as it relates to conservation and preservation of historic and cultural assets in the historic downtown districts of Christiansted, Frederiksted, Charlotte Amalie and Cruz Bay

Invited Testifiers:

Mr. Matthew Ridgway, President, Christiansted Retail and Restaurant Association
Mr. Shomari A.C. Moorehead, Our Town Frederiksted, Inc.
Mr. Akeel St. Jean, President, St. Croix Chamber of Commerce
Mr. John P. Woods, President, St. Thomas Chamber of Commerce

BLOCK III:

Bill No. [35-0209](#) An Act requiring the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, in collaboration with the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority, to conduct a comprehensive overview and generate a report of the Territory's potable water infrastructure and related equipment to ensure compliance with the Federal Safe Water Drinking Act and the Virgin Islands Safe Drinking Water Act and regulations promulgated under them and matters relating them

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre Oriol, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Planning & Natural Resources
Honorable Justa Encarnacion, RN, BSN, MBA, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Health
Mr. Andrew Smith, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority
Ms. Dayna Clendinen, Interim Director, Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority

**WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 31, 2024**

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

**Committee on Homeland Security,
Justice and Public Safety
10:00 A.M.
Cleone H. Creque Legislative Conference Room**

**THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 01, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

**FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 02, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved
