



35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
SENATE CALENDAR
September 16, 2024 – September 27, 2024

MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16, 2024

OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT

Reserved

TUESDAY.
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

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

The Committee of the Whole
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Thirty-Fifth Legislature will convene in a Committee of the Whole Hearing to receive testimony on the following zonings:

BLOCK I

Bill No. [35-0309](#) An Act amending Official Zoning Map No. SJZ-1 for the island of St. John, Virgin Islands, to rezone Parcel No. 25 Remainder Estate Susannaberg, No. 17A Cruz Bay Quarter, St. John, Virgin Islands, and Parcel No. 25B, Estate Susannaberg, No. 17A Cruz Bay Quarter, St. John, Virgin Islands, from R-1 (Residential-Low Density) to R-3 (Residential-Medium Density)

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Leia LaPlace-Matthew, Territorial Planner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Shemura Nicholson, Applicant

Bill No. [35-0324](#) An Act amending Official Zoning Map No. STZ-7 to rezone Plot No. 4 Estate Charlotte Amalie, New Quarter, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, from R-2 (Residential-Low Density-One and Two Family) to B-3 (Business-Scattered)

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Leia LaPlace-Matthew, Territorial Planner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Raphael W. Bostic, Applicant

Bill No. [35-0325](#) An Act amending Official Zoning Map No. STZ-9 to change the zoning designation of Parcel No. 19-1-2-8 Estate Smith Bay, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 East End Quarter, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands from A-2 (Agriculture) to B-3 (Business-Scattered), with a use variance for agricultural use and water delivery service

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Leia LaPlace-Matthew, Territorial Planner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
James J. Jones, Jr., Applicant
Jennifer Jones, Esq., Representative

Bill No. [35-0327](#) An Act amending Official Zoning Map No. STZ-7, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, rezoning Parcel No. 61-3 Estate Thomas, No. 6A New Quarter, St. Thomas from R-5 (Residential-High Density) to B-2 (Business-Secondary/Neighborhood)

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Leia LaPlace-Matthew, Territorial Planner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Errol Baker, Representative

BLOCK II

BR No. 24-1273 An Act approving the First Renewal Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands and Cigna and Life Insurance Company for Group Medical Health Insurance; the First Renewal Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands and Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company for Group Dental Insurance; and the First Amendment to the Agreement for Group Medical Health Insurance between the Government of the Virgin Islands and United Healthcare Insurance Company

Invited Testifiers:

Gilbert K. Comissiong, M.D., St. Thomas/St. John Active Representative; Co-Chairperson
 GESC Health Insurance Board

Valerie P. Daley, Chief, Group Health Insurance, Division of Personnel

Christian Bergstrom, Senior Benefits Consultant, Gehring Group

Michelle Vollrath, Senior Vice President Account Management, United Healthcare

Patty Vincent, On-Island Provider Relations Representative, Cigna

Mark Maynor, Underwriter, Cigna

Malena Mayea, Engagement Consultant, Cigna

Yesi Sanchez, General Manager, Cigna

Deepali Sahi, Senior Client Manager, Cigna

Mina Aaid, Pharmacy Consultant, Cigna

Marco N. Vitiello, M.D., FACFE, FACFM, Medical Senior Director Market Medical Executive
 South Florida and USVI

**FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2024**

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

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

The Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks has scheduled a hearing for Friday, September 20, 2024, at 10:00 AM in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room on St. Croix to receive testimony and updates regarding the status of the Horseracing Industry of the Virgin Islands.

BLOCK I

10:20 A.M – 12:00 P.M.

The committee will receive updates on the current status of horse racing in the St. Thomas and St. John District, with a particular focus on the ongoing efforts to finalize the construction plans for the Clinton E. Phipps Racetrack. The hearing will also address the progress of horse racing activities, the challenges faced by the industry, and the initiatives to enhance the sport. The discussion will explore how local stakeholders and authorities are working together to promote horse racing, improve facilities, and ensure regulatory compliance for the benefit of the Virgin Islands and the economy.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Calvert White, Commissioner, VI Sports, Parks, and Recreation

Shaine Gaspard, Executive Vice President, Southland Gaming

Hugo Hodge, Jr., Chairman, USVI Horseracing Commission

Clinton Hedrington, President, St. Thomas Horsemen Association

LUNCH

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

BLOCK II**12:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

The committee will receive updates on the status of horse racing in the territory. This update will include, but not be limited to facilities construction, funding allocations, projected timelines, achievements, challenges, potential opportunities, and prevailing needs.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Calvert White, Commissioner, VI Sports, Parks, and Recreation

Jason Williams, General Manager, Racing Operations, VIGL Operations, LLC

Andrew Dubuque, CFO/Managing Partner, VIGL Operations, LLC

Elroy Bates, Jr., President, Flamboyant Park Horsemen Association

Marvin Pickering, Chairman, Casino Commission Control

Carlton Dowe, Director, Virgin Islands Port Authority

Dodson James, Chairman, USVI Horseracing Commission

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

MONDAY,**SEPTEMBER 23, 2024****PRESIDENT: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.****VICE PRESIDENT: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN****The Committee of the Whole****10:00 A.M.****Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room****TUESDAY,****SEPTEMBER 24, 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, September 24, 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. [35-0286](#) An Act honoring and commending Verne Antonio Hodge for his years of dedicated service to the people of the Virgin Islands and its jurisprudence by renaming the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas/St. John, the “Judge Verne A. Hodge Superior Court of the Virgin Islands”.

Invited Testifiers:

The Honorable Rhys Hodge, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands

The Honorable Debra Watlington, Presiding Judge, Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands

The Honorable Maria Cabret, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands

The Honorable Brenda J. Hollar, Retired Judge, Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands

Mrs. Alma Plaskett-Christensen, Retired Assistant Court Administrator, Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands

BLOCK II

11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Bill No. [35-0251](#) An Act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 16, section 274 relating to the changing of the name of the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission to the Virgin Islands Taxicab and Limousine Commission and giving oversight authority to the Virgin Islands Taxicab and Limousine Commission over limousine services operators, and for other related purposes.

Invited Testifiers:

Ms. Vernice Gumbs, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission

Honorable H. Nathalie Hodge, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs

Mr. Chris Watson, CEO, The Tropical Adventure Group

Mr. Willis Pinney, President, Tripple A. Taxi

Mr. Kerry Harrigan, President, Best Taxi

Mr. Dihony LaLanne, President, St. Thomas Taxi

Mr. Lawrence Ramdhansingh, President, Virgin Islands Taxi Association

Mrs. Elizabeth Hansen Watley, Interim Chair, Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission Board

Mr. Christopher Elizee, Owner, Chris’ Limousine Service

Mr. Francis Arthur, President, St. Croix Taxicab Association

Mr. Perry Trotman, CEO, Presidential Limousine

Mr. Mervin Smith, President, East End Taxicab Association

Mr. Shawn Claxton, President, St. John Taxi

LUNCH **1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

BLOCK III **2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

Bill No. [35-0231](#) An Act amending Title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part II, Chapter 32, subchapter I, section 225c, relating to permit requirements for vehicles brought into the territory, to exempt authorized dealers from the permit requirements but require them to present a bill of lading

Invited Testifiers:

Ms. Barbara Jackson-McIntosh, Director, V.I. Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Mr. Clifford Bowsky, Owner, Bowsky Auto Sales & Car Rental

Mr. Justin Workman, Director of Operations, Drive Green V.I.

Ms. Denise Hannah, Executive GM, Metro Motors V.I.

BLOCK IV **3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

Bill No. [35-0285](#) An Act honoring and commending Bryan “Benny-Demus” Boulai for his outstanding achievements in the music and entertainment industries and for his contributions to the Virgin Islands community, awarding him The Official Key to the Virgin Islands and appropriating \$10,000 annually to The DEMUS Foundation.

Invited Testifiers:

Ms. Kimika Woods, Acting Director, Office of Management & Budget

Honorable Calvert White, Commissioner, Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation

Honorable Kevin McCurdy, Commissioner, Department of Finance

Mr. Jose “Tony” Rosario, Resident

Mr. Theron Thomas, Resident

Mr. Sheldon Turnbull, Resident

**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2024**

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

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

9:30 A.M.

Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024**

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

**Regular Session
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

**FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved
