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August 16, 2026

Via Email: (mpotter@legvi.org)

Honorable Milton E. Potter

President

36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

Capitol Building

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas

U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

Re: Committee of the Whole – Invitation to Provide Testimony

Dear Senate President Potter:

Thank you for the invitation to appear before the Committee of the Whole on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., to provide testimony on Bill No. 36-0313, *An Act approving lease agreements for the development and operation of the Randall “Doc” James Racetrack on St. Croix and the Clinton E. Phipps Racetrack on St. Thomas and amending titles 32 and 33 Virgin Islands Code*.

Although I previously indicated verbally that I would accept the invitation, after further consideration, I have decided to respectfully decline.

My position regarding the proposed legislation and the underlying agreement has already been clearly and publicly expressed in my Op-Ed published in *The Virgin Islands Daily News* on June 8, 2026. I believe that commentary fully sets forth my position and the principal concerns that inform it, and I do not believe additional testimony would materially supplement the views I have already placed on the public record. A copy of the Op-Ed is enclosed for your reference.

I appreciate the Legislature’s consideration of my views and regret any inconvenience caused by my change in decision. I trust that the members of the 36th Legislature will carefully consider the significant legal, regulatory, fiscal, and public-policy issues raised by the proposed legislation.

Letter to Senate President Milton Potter

August 16, 2026

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Thank you for your understanding and for the courtesy of the invitation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marvin L. Pickering', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Marvin L. Pickering
Former Chairman/Chief Executive Officer
Virgin Islands Casino Control Commission

Attachments: (1)

xc: Dwane Callwood, Chief Researcher, Office of the Senate President