



# Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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*The Honorable*  
**Donna A. Frett-Gregory**  
Liaison to Congress

**CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Budget, Appropriations  
and Finance

**VICE CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Education  
and Workforce Development

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Economic Development  
& Agriculture

Committee on Health, Hospitals and  
Human Services

## COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE

The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature's Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance will meet on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the Frits E. Lawaetz Conference Room on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

### OFFICIAL AGENDA - **REVISED**

#### BLOCK I

**Bill No. 35-0133** - An Act amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 15, relating to scholarships by adding section 190gg to establish an educational scholarship program to support individuals interested in pursuing a career in the maritime industry in the Virgin Islands.

#### *Invited Testifiers:*

*Dr. David Hall*  
*President*  
*University of the Virgin Islands*

*Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington*  
*Commissioner*  
*Department of Education*

*Dr. Kyza Callwood*  
*Chairman*  
*Virgin Islands Board of Education*

*Mr. Carlton Dowe*  
*Executive Director*  
*V.I Port Authority*

*Mr. Oriel Blake*  
*President*  
*Virgin Islands Charter Association*

*Mr. Richard Difede*  
*President*  
*Gold Coast Yachts*

*Ms. Jill Hughes*  
*Port Captain*  
*World Ocean School*

#### BLOCK II

**Bill No. 35-0218** - An Act amending title 24 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 12 relating to unemployment benefits by reducing the number of weeks that unemployment benefits can be received; increasing the statute of limitations for the collection of overpayments of unemployment benefits from claimants and for delinquent employer contribution; allowing for the implementation of the payroll variation methodology launch in the calendar year beginning January 2024; implementing a 10-year record retention period for employers; and requiring employers to register with the Virgin Islands State Information Data Exchange System.

***Invited Testifier:***

*Mr. Gary Molloy  
Commissioner  
Department of Labor*

cc: Legislative Staff  
Media