



# Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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**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

*The Honorable*

***Donna A. Frett-Gregory***

Liaison to Congress

## COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE

The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature’s Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance will meet Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Chambers on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

### OFFICIAL AGENDA

#### **BLOCK I: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

Update on the status of the premium pay distributions and the American Rescue Plan Act \$500 Stipends to Social Security Recipients.

#### ***Invited Testifier:***

Honorable Jenifer O’Neal  
Director – V.I. Office of Management and Budget

#### **BLOCK II: 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

Update on the status of the Compliance Agreement between the U.S. Virgin Islands and the U.S. Department of Education as a result of the U.S. Virgin Islands being designated a “high-risk grantee” under 34 CFR § 80.12.

#### ***Invited Testifiers:***

Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington  
Commissioner – V.I. Department of Education

Honorable Jenifer O’Neal  
Director – V.I. Office of Management and Budget

Honorable Bosede Bruce  
Commissioner – V.I. Department of Finance

Honorable Kimberly Causey-Gomez  
Commissioner – V.I. Department of Human Services

Ms. Lisa Alejandro  
Acting Commissioner – V.I. Department of  
Property and Procurement

Honorable Justa “Tita” Encarnacion  
Commissioner – V.I. Department of Health

Sharon Murphy  
Partner – McConnell & Jones, LLP

**BLOCK III: 1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Bill No. 35-0012** - An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 19, subchapter III, section 1556 relating to the retirement from the National Guard to increase the retirement pension. (*Sponsored by: Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff*)

***Invited Testifiers:***

Major General Kodjo S. Knox-Limbacker  
Adjutant General V.I. National Guard

Honorable Jenifer O’Neal  
Director – V.I. Office of Management and Budget

**BLOCK IV: 2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Bill No. 35-0034** - An Act appropriating \$3,200,000 from the Tourism Advertising Revolving Fund (“Fund”) as a loan to the Virgin Islands Port Authority (“VIPA”) to cover legal, engineering, financial and other consulting fees associated with the Public Private Partnership project to modernize and enhance the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport on St. Croix and the Cyril E. King Airport on St. Thomas, and requiring the VIPA repay the funds to the Fund within 90 days after the effective date of the contract. (*Sponsored by Senator Javan E. James, Sr.*)

***Invited Testifiers:***

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

Mr. Willard John  
Chairman, V.I. Port Authority Governing Board

Honorable Jenifer O’Neal  
Director – V.I. Office of Management and Budget