Legislature of the Virgin Islands



P.O. BOX 1690 ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00802 (340) 712-2278

The Honorable

Angel Bolques, Jr. Senator-At-Large 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands CHAIRMAN Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, & Parks

VICE-CHAIRMAN Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

MEMBER Committee on Rules & Judiciary Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety Committee on Housing, Transportation, & Telecommunication Subcommittee on Energy & Infrastructure Development

August 9, 2023

Hugo Hodge, Jr. Chairman USVI Horse Race Commission via email: <u>hugo.hodgejr@vi.gov</u>

Dear Chairman Hodge,

I trust this message finds you well. I am writing to formally invite you to an upcoming meeting that holds significant importance for our community. The Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports & Parks has scheduled a meeting on Friday, August 25, 2023, commencing at 10:00 AM. The meeting will take place at the distinguished Fritz E. Lawaetz Legislative Chambers, situated on the beautiful island of St. Croix.

Your esteemed presence and insightful testimony are respectfully requested at 11:30 AM during this crucial gathering. The purpose of your participation is to provide valuable input on a matter of paramount significance - the current state and progress of horse racing within our territory.

The agenda of our committee hearing is designed to delve into various aspects of horse racing, including but not limited to facilities construction, funding allocations, projected timelines, achievements, challenges, potential opportunities, and prevailing needs. Your comprehensive perspective and expert insights on these matters would undoubtedly contribute significantly to our collective understanding and informed decision-making.

Furthermore, I kindly request your testimony on Bills 35-0073 & 35-0083, enclosed with this letter for your thorough review. Your perspective on these bills will greatly assist the committee in evaluating their potential impact on the horse racing landscape.

To facilitate the engagement process for your team members, we can offer the option of remote participation via Teams. Detailed invitations will be extended to ensure a seamless connection. For added convenience, I kindly urge that your written testimony be submitted via email to my office at <u>senatorbolques@legvi.org</u> no later than August 18, 2023. To optimize the effectiveness of the presentation, kindly limit the written testimony to a concise format of under three pages.

I am deeply grateful for your invaluable cooperation and contribution to this significant meeting. Your insights and expertise hold the potential to shape the future of horse racing within our territory, and I am genuinely excited about the prospect of your involvement. Thank you for considering our invitation to testify. Kindly confirm your attendance and preferred mode of participation at your earliest convenience. I eagerly anticipate your response and look forward to collaborating toward a brighter future for horse racing within our community.

Sincerely,

Augel L. Bolques Jr.

Angel Bolques, Jr. Senator-At-Large 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands