

Chairperson: Economic Development & Agriculture
Vice Chair: Committee Government Operations, Veterans
Affairs & Consumer Protection



Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands

#3022 ESTATE GOLDEN ROCK
ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00820
TELEPHONE: (340) 712-2246
EMAIL: SENATORJJAMES@LEGVI.ORG

The Honorable Senator
JAVAN E. JAMES
★ ★ ★ ★ 35TH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE

REVISED II AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023, AT 10:00 A.M.

The Committee on Economic Development and Agriculture will convene a meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on the island of St. Thomas. The Committee will receive a status update from the Office of Cannabis Regulations (OCR), the Virgin Islands Department of Tourism, and the Virgin Islands Port Authority.

BLOCK I - 10:00 a.m.

Bill No. 35-0049 An act amending title 7, chapter 1 of the Virgin Islands Code by adding subchapter VIII, establishing a Local Food and Farm Council in accordance with mandate five of the Virgin Islands Agriculture Plan. **Proposed by Senator Donna A. Frett-Gregory and Senator Javan E. James, Sr.**

The Committee will receive an update on the overall status of the USVI Office of Cannabis Regulations to include the following below:

- Implementation of Act 8680
- Status update on the necessary personnel to carry out the duties of the Office of Cannabis Regulations
- Discussion on the licensing procedures for the cannabis industry

INVITED TESTIFIERS:

The Honorable Richard T. Evangelista, Esq.
Commissioner Department of Licensing & Consumer Affairs
Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands

Mrs. Hannah Carty
Executive Director
Office of Cannabis Regulations
Virgin Islands Department of Licensing & Consumer Affairs
Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States

Dr. Catherine Kean,
Chairwoman of the Cannabis Advisory Board
Virgin Islands Cannabis Advisory Board

Kye Walker Esq.
Legal Adviser to the Governor &
Cannabis Legislation

Mr. Tafari Tzaddi
President
Rastafari Sacramental Cannabis Counsel, Inc.

Cont'd.... /2



RECESS – 1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

BLOCK II – 1:30 p.m.

The Committee will receive an update on the overall status of the Virgin Islands Department of Tourism operations to include but not limited to the following listed below:

- Update on the utilization of the funds to market St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John
- Update on the upcoming 2023 St. Thomas Carnival
- Report for the 2019-2020 and 2022-2023 Crucian Christmas Festivals
- Report for the 2019 and 2022 St. Thomas Carnivals
- Goals to promote Sports Tourism in the Virgin Islands
- Update on the partnership with the Uber Soca Cruise
- Goals for the upcoming Sea Trade Conference

INVITED TESTIFIER:

The Honorable Joseph B. Boschulte
Commissioner,
United States Virgin Islands Department of Tourism

BLOCK III – 4:00 p.m.

The Committee will receive an update from the Virgin Islands Port Authority on the overall status to include but not limited to the following listed below:

- Status update on the P3 project for the airports
- Update on all capital projects for VIPA
- Goals for the upcoming Sea Trade Conference
- Update on the contract for Seaborne Airlines and goals for improving inter-island travel

INVITED TESTIFIER:

The Honorable Carlton Dowe
Executive Director
Virgin Islands Port Authority

Cc: All Senators
Media
Journal
All Employees