

# Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands



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SENATOR  
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## Committee on Education & Workforce Development

Thursday, March 23, 2023  
10:00 AM  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall  
St. Thomas, USVI

### **REVISED** **Meeting Agenda**

The Committee will receive testimony from the Department of the Education, **Department of Planning and Natural Resources and University of the Virgin Islands** on the following:

#### **BLOCK I:**

1. Status of the Virgin Islands State Literacy Plan including details on schools' literacy action plans, literacy coaches and literacy specialists (including bilingual reading specialists) development and implementation of culturally responsive curriculum and instruction, family literacy initiatives, extended-day, summer, or weekend family institutes related to literacy and biliteracy, partnership with the University of the Virgin Islands.
2. Safety and security of students. Schoolwide Prevention and Intervention Strategies, School-based bullying prevention programs, Cyberbullying prevention, and intervention programs; Staff Development to Prevent School Violence, Law Enforcement Partnerships; School-Based Links with Mental Health and Social Service Agencies; School, Family, and Community Involvement.
3. **Status update of the libraries in the Virgin Islands.**

#### **Invited Testifiers:**

**Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington**, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education

**Dr. Karen Harris Brown**, Dean and Professor, School of Education, University of the Virgin Islands

**Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol**, Commissioner, Department of Planning and Natural Resources

**CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Education  
& Workforce Development

**VICE-CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Housing, Transportation  
& Telecommunications

**SECRETARY**  
Intergovernmental Relations  
& Territorial Affairs

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Disaster Recovery  
& Infrastructure/DPNR  
Committee on Health, Hospitals  
& Human Services  
Committee on Rules & Judiciary

*My Island. My People. My Concern.*

**BLOCK II:**

**Bill No. 35-0055**, “An Act amending title 17 of the Virgin Islands Code pertaining to school curriculum in elementary and secondary schools”

**Proposed by Senator Franklin D. Johnson**

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington**, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education

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

**Mario C. Moorhead**, Author/Historian/Activist

**\*Bill No. 35-0039 has been removed from the agenda.**

**\*Testifiers have been added to the agenda.**