

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS & HUMAN SERVICES

The Honorable Ray Fonseca

CHAIRMAN



35th Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands


Capitol Building, P.O. Box 1690

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00804

(340) 693-3577

Email: senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org

TO: Honorable Kenneth L. Gittens, Vice-Chair
Honorable Marvin A. Blyden
Honorable Diane T. Capehart
Honorable Samuel Carrion
Honorable Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
Honorable Donna Frett-Gregory
Honorable Marise C. James
Honorable Milton E. Potter

FROM: Honorable Ray Fonseca 
Chairman, Committee on Health, Hospitals & Human Services

DATE: Tuesday, December 05, 2023

RE: AGENDA – 12-06-23- COMMITTEE MEETING - **REVISED IV**

Please be advised that the Committee on Health, Hospitals & Human Services will be conducting a meeting on **Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall St. Thomas.**

BLOCK I

9:30am-11:00am

Bill No. 35-0187, *An Act amending title 19, part V, chapter 45, by adding subchapter XI, titled Extreme Risk Protection Orders, to allow a family or household member, law enforcement officer, healthcare worker, educator or co-worker to intervene and file a court petition to temporarily confiscate and ban a person's access to guns for one year if that person is deemed to be a risk to themselves or others*, sponsored by Senator Diane T. Capehart.

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

Ms. Ariel Smith
Attorney General

The Honorable Ray Martinez
Commissioner, Virgin Islands Police Department

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS & HUMAN SERVICES

The Honorable Ray Fonseca

CHAIRMAN



35th Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands

Capitol Building, P.O. Box 1690

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00804

(340) 693-3577

Email: senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org

The Honorable Just "Tita" Encarnacion
Commissioner, Department of Health

The Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington
Commissioner, Department of Education

The Honorable Averil George
Commissioner Nominee, Department of Human Services

BLOCK II

11:05am-12:15pm

Bill No. 35-0194, *An Act amending title 17 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 10, section 111(a) requiring the Commissioner of Education to hire a School Health Technician for every public school in the Territory.* Sponsored by Senator Kenneth L. Gittens.

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

The Honorable Justa E. "Tita" Encarnación
Commissioner, The Department of Health

The Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington
Commissioner, Department of Education

LUNCH

12:15-12:45pm

BLOCK III

12:50PM- 2:30PM

Bill No. 35-0173, *An Act amending title 5 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 201, by adding a subchapter V enacting the Safe Haven Newborn Protection Act to provide a mechanism for a newborn infant to be relinquished to a safe environment, for the parents of the newborn infant to remain anonymous if they choose and avoid civil or criminal liability for the act of relinquishing the newborn infant,* Sponsored by Senator Angel L. Bolques, Jr.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS & HUMAN SERVICES

The Honorable Ray Fonseca

CHAIRMAN



35th Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands

Capitol Building, P.O. Box 1690

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00804

(340) 693-3577

Email: senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

The Honorable Averil George
Commissioner Nominee, Department of Human Services

Ms. Carla E. Benjamin, ME. ED. MSW, CSW, CPM
Assistant Commissioner, Department of Human Services

Mr. Douglas Koch
Chief Executive Officer, Juan F. Louis Hospital

Ms. Tina Comissiong, Esq., MPA
Chief Executive Officer, Schneider Regional Medical Center

Mr. Sydney Elskoe
Assistant Commissioner, Virgin Islands Police Department

Mr. Antonio Stevens
Acting Director, V.I. Fire and Emergency Medical Service

Mr. Robert Bryan NRP
EMS Chief, V.I. Fire and Medical Emergency Medical Services

Mr. Victor Adams
EMS Chief, V.I. Fire and Medical Emergency Medical Services

Ms. Leah Kipley
Assistant Director, National Safe Haven Alliance

Ms. Heather Burner, Rn, BSN
Executive Director, National Safe Haven Alliance

Ms. Anya Stuart
Executive Director, Family Resource Center

Ms. Darian Torrice-Hairston
Executive Director, Nana Baby Children's Home

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS & HUMAN SERVICES

The Honorable Ray Fonseca

CHAIRMAN



35th Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands

Capitol Building, P.O. Box 1690

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00804

(340) 693-3577

Email: senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org

BLOCK IV

2:35PM-4:30PM

The Committee will receive testimony on all past, current, and future mitigation efforts, health effects, and potential risks to the community as it relates to the fire on the Bovoni landfill, on St. Thomas.

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

Honorable Justa E. Encarnacion
Commissioner, Department of Health

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

Mr. Daryl D. Jaschen
Director, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency

Mr. Roger E. Merritt Jr
Executive Director, Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority

Mr. Antonio Stevens
Acting Director, V.I. Fire and Emergency Medical Service

The Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington
Commissioner, Department of Education